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THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

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THE CRISIS

Founded 1910
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A RECORD OF THE DARKER RACES

Editor: James W. Ivy
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■ **Spingarn medalist and noted surgeon was NAACP board chairman for 20 years**

NAACP Mourns Dr. Louis T. Wright

FUNERAL services for Dr. Louis T. Wright, chairman of the board of directors of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and director of surgery and president of the medical board of Harlem Hospital, were held on Saturday, October 11, at 10:00 A.M., at St. Philip's Church, 214 West 134th Street, New York City. He died at his home at 218 West 139th Street, New York City, of a heart attack on October 8. The Reverend Shelton Bishop conducted the services.

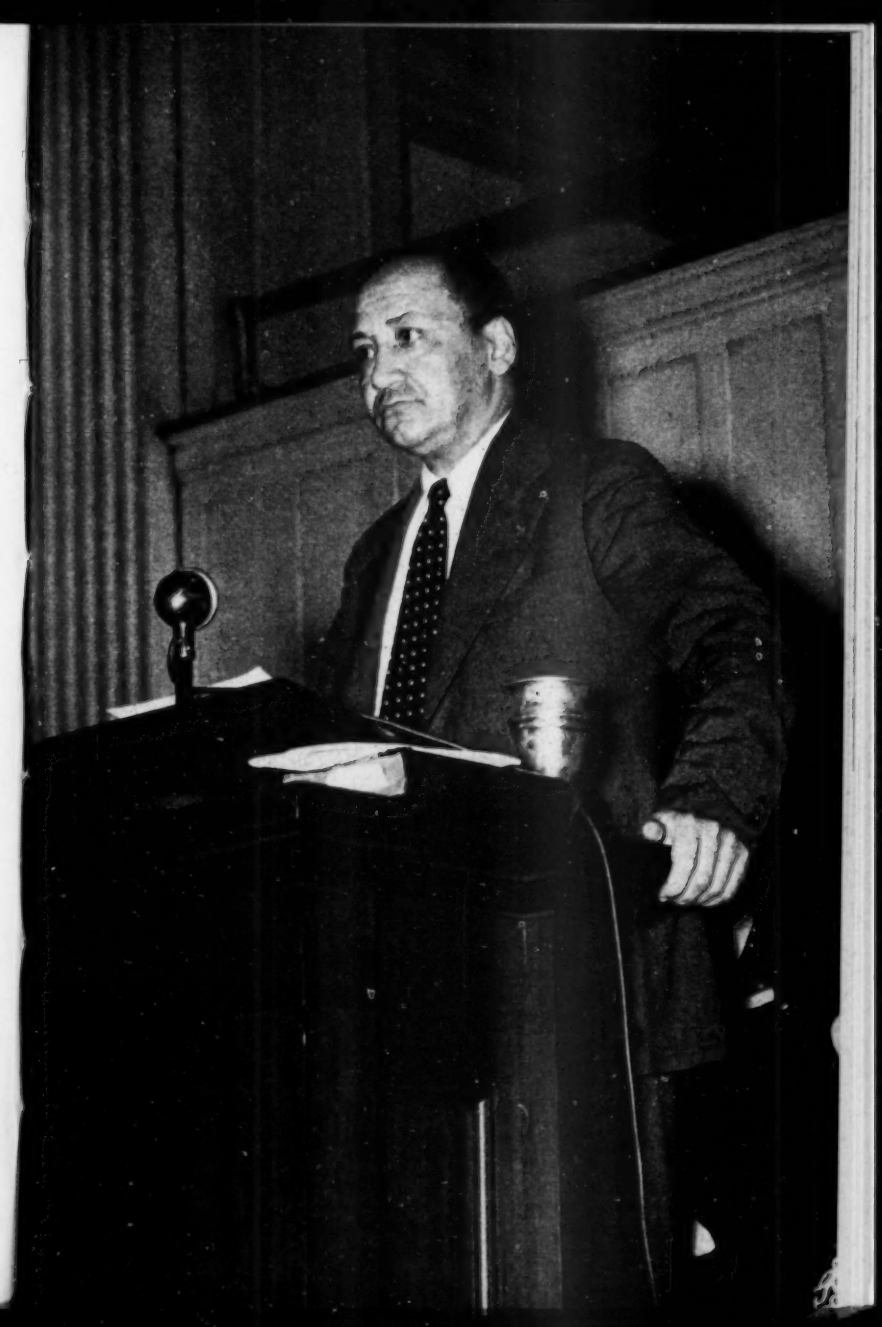
Dr. Wright, who had served as chairman of the NAACP for the past twenty years, was a militant fighter for equality of citizenship and opportunity for Negro Americans during his entire life. Arthur B. Spingarn, NAACP president, has said of Dr. Wright that "few people have been more consistent, more vigorous, more wise, and more courageous in fighting discrimination and all forms of injustice . . . he devotes twenty-four hours of the time in his day to the NAACP."

Walter White, NAACP executive secretary, called Dr. Wright "one of the most unselfish, uncompromising advocates of the highest integrity in medicine and human relations."

Best known for his distinguished accomplishments in the field of surgery, Dr. Wright was thought of by many as the outstanding Negro surgeon in the country. When he joined the staff of Harlem Hospital in 1919, he became the first member of his race to serve on the staff of a New York City hospital. He became surgical director of the hospital in 1943 and president of the board in 1948.

In 1932, Dr. Wright was appoint-

THE LATE *Dr. Louis T. Wright (July 23, 1891-October 8, 1952) photographed in a speaking stance characteristic of this courageous and uncompromising foe of jim crow and discrimination in all its forms.*



ed New York City police surgeon, the first Negro to hold that post.

He contributed numerous scientific papers to professional journals and publications. Under his supervision the first tests of the wonder drug aureomycin were made on human beings in 1948. He also engaged in cancer research under a grant from the Damon Runyon Fund.

He served for nineteen years as president of The Crisis Publishing Company and was a founder of the John A. Andrew Clinical Society at Tuskegee and the Harlem Surgical Society in New York City.

In 1940 Dr. Wright was awarded the Spingarn Medal, given each year by the NAACP to the Negro American whose achievement is judged the most distinguished of the year. The citation lauded him "for his contributions to the healing of mankind and for his courageous and uncompromising position, held often in the face of bitter attack, that Negro men of medicine should measure up to the most absolute standards of technical excellence and, as a corollary, that having done so, Negro medical men and nurses should be accorded every opportunity to serve, without discrimination on account of race or color."

Born in LaGrange, Georgia, on July 23, 1891, Dr. Wright was graduated from Clark University, Atlanta, in 1911 and from the Harvard Medical College with honors in 1915. In 1917 he was commissioned a Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Medical Corps, serving in France during the first World War. After the war, he joined the Medical Reserve Corps and rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

A fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a diplomate of the American Board of Surgery, he was a member of the American Medical Association and the New York Surgical Society.

Dr. Wright was honored last April 30 by more than 1,000 persons at a testimonial dinner at the Hotel Statler, on the occasion of the inauguration of the Louis T. Wright Library of Harlem Hospital. Such notables as Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Dr. Robert H. Kennedy, Dr. Henry W. Cave, Walter White, Arthur B. Spingarn, Dr. George Packer Berry, Dr. Marcus D. Kogel, Dr. W. Montague Cobb, Elmer Carter, Dr. Channing H. Tobias, Judge William H. Hastie, and Mayor Vincent Impellitteri spoke on that occasion in tribute to Dr. Wright.

Surviving are Dr. Wright's wife, the former Corinne Cooke, whom he married in 1918; two daughters, Dr. Jane Wright Jones and Dr. Barbara Wright Pierce; three granddaughters; and a sister, Mrs. Jessie Penn West of Nashville, Tenn.

DID YOU KNOW —

That William G. Haynes devised the liquid now used to preserve railroad crossties?

■ *'Tis hard for even a truly liberal white man to be completely en rapport with Negroes — true story of a southern trial*

His Town

By Ken Macrorie

THE clock hand jumped to the third black mark past nine, but still no judge. Zechariah turned from the open courtroom door and looked through the dirty window to the street below, where he could see the cab drivers lounging around the telephone shack squeezed between two buildings.

"Your obscenities aren't going to rule this time," he said. He looked beyond the row of buildings to the campus and beyond that and thought if a person's not used to dogwood smelling up all the air with a wonderful odor and white blossoms like popcorn balls showing through the scrub woods, he wouldn't be ready for what spring is in this village. From every bush and tree, flowers breaking through and spreading their sickly sweet odor over campus lawns. Vines pressing against the low stone fences bordering the uneven, sweating sidewalks of April. . . .

Behind him the gavel sounded and the incoherent chant announced the Judge. Zechariah watched him enter. He strode to the bench as the audience stood, twirled the high, slat-backed chair toward him, and sat down—a short man, well proportioned for his height, with the handsome head of a youth, striking in its silver gray hair and the pleasant wrinkles in the tanned skin.

Standing in the doorway, Zechariah was suddenly amazed that he had lived here for five years and never been in this room. Down left in the first four rows the colored people were calling to each other in high, strained voices.

"That's Lawyer Hibbs there in the white coat."

George, at his elbow, had startled him.

"Oh hi, George," he said, trying to match his matter-of-factness. George looked the most poised figure in the room, even in jeans scrubbed out to blue gray. He was tall, the black skin drawn taut over his long bones. He held himself erect and yet loosely.

Hibbs—remembered Zechariah—was a product of the university law school. Comforting thought. The law school of the very university where Zechariah had recently stood, telling a sociology class about a Ne-

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KEN MACRORIE, *who formerly lived in the South, is now a graduate student at Columbia University.*

gro college president's words to five white men: "We colored people," he had said, "resent your idea that we look at every woman we see as if we want to marry her, or rape her. The fact is, we want to marry only women we love, just like anybody else." In this town, in this university, that statement could be made. It was his town now. He tasted pride and held it for a moment on his tongue.

Judge Riordan had been sitting there composed and isolated for several minutes. Suddenly he looked up as if he just realized where he was.

"Lawyer Hibbs," he said.

The prosecutor got to his feet; in the pressed white suit his body was tight with eagerness.

"The prosecution will prove," he said, "that a white man and a colored man, residents of New York and Idaho, planned and carried out a journey hundreds of miles long for the sole purpose of breaking state transportation laws and promoting racial animosity. And that in Hillsville on the nineteenth of May at eleven fifteen o'clock, the defendant, George Roussy, refused to change his place in a railroad car, where he was sitting illegally next to a person of colored extraction, when there were seats in the same car nearer the front, where by state law white persons should seat themselves. And that further, he refused to do likewise when asked to do so by John Selkirk, the conductor of the aforementioned car, and when asked to do the same by Officer Himmel of the city of Hillsville, who boarded the car at the call of Conductor Selkirk. And that Byron Lester, the colored man sitting with him, also refused to move upon the clear order of Officer Himmel."

As Lawyer Hibbs filled in the details around the charges, he stood at ease, bulking large. His voice whined a little, yet sincerity and awareness of the dignity of the occasion sounded in all his words. Zechariah watched and listened for the audience to react, but it was as if Hibbs were talking to empty benches. George, standing next to Zechariah, his face impassive, spat at a brass spittoon in the hall. In the white walled room large black flies crawled nervously on white window sills and white railings and people.

At the same moment that Judge Riordan swung his chair to the left and looked toward the defense table, the chief defense lawyer stood. He was chunky and pompous; the gold watch chain looped across his vest held up a monstrous lodge emblem of gold and stones. Disconcerted momentarily by the Judge's gaze, he looked down at his young assistant, who had just pushed a law book to the front of the table and was opening a new cowhide brief case.

"Your Honor," said the chunky lawyer, singing out the words oratorically, "the defense will seek to prove that the defendants, George Roussy and Byron Lester, were perfectly within their rights in seating themselves unsegregated, as interstate passengers, who bought their tickets in one state, for a destination in an entirely different and completely separate state, and within the full protection and jurisdiction of the decision recently handed down by the Supreme Court of the United States in

the case of Irene Morgan, under which and pursuant to, the travel of all interstate commodities is held to take place under federal and not state laws, thereby fully and completely nullifying the provisions of the state law herein described recently by the prosecution as resting its entire case upon the breaking of." He sat down.

A man chuckled somewhere in the room. The Judge smiled indulgently. The first Negro ever to speak as a lawyer in the Recorder's Court of Hillsville. Seated once more next to his assistant, the lawyer tried to find something to do with his hands and the pencils and books and papers before him. Someone had laughed at him. But everyone in the room, on both sides of the rail, had listened as he talked.

The black fan blades moved steadily around their pivot and the white walls grew whiter in midday brightness as witnesses for the prosecution paraded to the Bible, to the chair under the Judge's bench, and back to their seats on the inside of the rail. Lawyer Hibbs was cross-examining a defense witness. He sat bolt upright, his hands composed in his lap in a coolness that made his wool suit look right in the warm room. His skin was light brown. He was one of those men women call beautiful. Lawyer Hibbs looked away from him.

"What's your name?" he said abruptly.

"Byron M. Lester," the witness answered. He spoke softly, with elegant articulation, and the boredom in his voice hung visibly in the air before the lawyer's face.

"Where do you live?" said Hibbs.

"316 Ellsworth Place, New York, New York."

"New York, eh?" said Hibbs.

"Yes, that is what I said—New York."

Hibbs looked angrily at him, and then smiled. "And how much time did you spend in the service during the last war?"

"Three years."

"Active duty all that time?"

"Yes."

Hibbs shook a letter-sized paper before him. "You call sitting in jail for two solid years active duty in defense of your country?"

A murmur went through the room.

"Your Honor," said Hibbs, "this man was so cowardly, so unpatriotic, that just before his company was to sail overseas, he committed a crime and got himself put in jail where he would be safe from the enemy that was killing the sons of good Americans—"

"Objection, Your Honor," said the young defense lawyer, on his feet.

"Let the prosecutor finish his sentence before you object," said the Judge. Hibbs nodded thank you and went on.

"In jail safe from the enemy that was killing the sons of good American citizens. I have the record here. He was in a federal military penitentiary from December 10, 1943 to December 8, 1945."

The defense lawyer was still on his feet, but the defendant spoke before he could formulate his objection.

"It is true," said the witness, and he pushed himself back in the chair, sitting even straighter. "I was im-

prisoned during the war. A captain called one of my friends a derogatory name and—"

Hibbs had swung around. "You boy," he said, "answer the questions I ask you. That's all you do."

The Judge leaned forward. "That's right, son. You will only answer the questions put to you. You will not make statements on your own."

"Now," said Hibbs, "let's get this ticket business straight, once and for all. Roussy bought two tickets in Pennsylvania and you used one. Tickets bought in one state, for a destination beyond Hillsville."

"That is right."

"I heard you say before that you stopped off in Lancaster and thus broke your trip, but what I want to know now—did you intend from the first to use that ticket to go all the way to your ultimate destination in another state?"

The defendant looked at the floor.

"Well?"

"I am considering my reply."

"You must know whether you intended to use the tcket all the way. Answer the question."

Lester continued to look at the floor. His gaze wandered up and fixed on Hibbs' vertical-striped knit tie dangling in front of him. "I'm not sure."

"You're not sure?" Hibbs looked around. "Did you ever hear anything like that, Your Honor? He's not sure."

"Answer the question yes or no," said the Judge.

"I cannot," said Lester.

"You must answer the question yes or no," said the Judge coldly.

"Then I'll say no."

Hibbs was momentarily staggered by Lester's literal truthfulness. He stepped back and put his hand over his mouth, reflecting. Then he hurried over to the stenographer's table. Looking up to the Judge for permission, he grasped the ticket stubs that had been entered as evidence that morning. Holding one in his right hand, he shoved it in Lester's face.

"Is this the stub to the ticket you used on your trip and had in your possession when the train stopped in Hillsville?"

Lester took it from him, turned it over, handed it back, and looked down.

"Answer the question, boy."

"It looks like it," said Lester, "but I couldn't be sure. I didn't examine it carefully enough when it first came into my possession to memorize anything singular about it."

"You mean you don't know if it was yours?"

"Objection," said the young lawyer.

"Objection overruled," said the Judge in a tired voice.

"I repeat my question," said Hibbs. "You mean you don't know if this stub was yours?"

"Yes. I don't know."

"Then you can't even prove that you had a certain ticket, interstate or otherwise, in your possession?"

"I guess that is right, in a way."

"That is right."

The slim young man clutched the arms of the witness chair and started to get up.

"Wait a minute," said Hibbs.

"I'm not through." He walked to the prosecution table, looking back to see that the witness did not leave. His assistant rose without moving his chair back and a note board clattered at his feet. He was stooping for it when Hibbs grasped his arm. They whispered and Hibbs returned to the witness, the ticket still in his hand.

"We haven't discussed one aspect of this ticket yet," he said. "What's this portion that is attached to the stub?" He handed it to Lester. "What does it say on it? Read it."

"Good for one fare from Lancaster to Ordway," read Lester.

"That then," said Hibbs softly, "is the part of the ticket that takes a traveler from one state into another. Why is it there, attached to the stub? Why is it still attached to the stub?"

"Because it wasn't used," said the witness, his voice sinking

"How did you get from Lancaster to Ordway then?"

"We stopped to see a friend Lancaster and he drove us to Ordway."

"That is all," said Hibbs. "You may step down, if His Honor has no other business with you."

The Judge shook his head. Hibbs was anxious to finish the case. He could tie it up now, he saw, before five o'clock that afternoon if things went right.

Judge Riordan called the attorneys of both sides to the bench and they conferred in whispers. Zechariah in the doorway spoke loudly to George. "Ought to have two sides to that bench, one marked colored and one white. Isn't right to see the races so unsegregated right there before the Judge."

A boy near him snorted and laughter swept the right side of the room. The Judge looked up, hit his gavel. "Silence in the court," he said, wondering what had happened. A man near the door whispered loudly, "That's Zeck Smith. Showin' off his love for the Nigras pretty fine, ain't he?"

Zeck looked in the direction of the voice. George leaned his head close. "I think it was the one in the blue shirt," he said. "Cab driver."

The assistant defense lawyer hit his chief's shoulder. "Look back there."

"Yeah?" said the older man, turning around without interest.

"That's Zeck Smith in the seersucker suit."

"Who?"

"Zechariah Smith, man. I always thought he'd be here — his home town now, you know."

"So that's him. He don't look much like his picture."

Near the door a blonde headed girl in a bright green skirt slid along the empty bench and touched Zechariah's coat sleeve.

"Do you think there's any chance he'll decide for the defense, Mr. Smith?" she said. 'T'he defense has cited the interstate law. It's an open and shut case. Riordan can't ignore that, can he?"

"Young lady," said Zechariah, "the law doesn't decide cases. People do."

"I suppose you're right," she said, and slid back to her place. She must have been in that class I spoke to, he thought. Up front the whispering went on with the attorneys

and then the judge announced a fifteen minute recess for the preparation of final statements.

On the court side of the dividing rail only the defense remained. The younger lawyer stood up, and puttting his arm around his chief's shoulder, steered him away from the witness, Lester, who had taken a seat at the table and was reading a book.

"Talk over by the window," he said. The stout man wiped sweat from his forehead with a gigantic white handkerchief he drew from his back pocket.

"We're almost there,' 'he said, smiling. But the younger man wasn't listening. He stared out the window, ready to speak but not sure of his words.

"We've got all the important points down in the record," he said as he turned. "You think there's any chance at all that Riordan will decide on evidence?"

"Impossible," said the older man, laughing. "He doesn't even suspicion what we're doing."

"I'm not so sure. Funny, I was the one all along said we should divert attention from the facts we established, just get them in the record. Now I don't know."

"Riordan'll never see through it," said the older lawyer. "Last thing in the world a race-hatin' old man like him would ever see. He's pushed us around in courts all his life. If you was to walk up to him and whisper in his ear, 'Judge, we're trying' to lose this case so we can win it in a higher court where it'll count more for colored folk.' he wouldn't believe you."

"I guess you're right. That's what I said all along, but I'm losing my confidence, kind of intuition, I guess. Sure wouldn't do to win this case here."

"Well, what can we do? If he decides the case for us, we can't stop him."

"We'll have to really get their minds off the subject. We better not say anything more about prosecution's weak points."

"You work on it," said the older man. "I'm goin' out and get some water. Notice if there was a fountain when you came up?"

"At the bottom of the stairs—with big signs over them."

In a few minutes the older lawyer was back. "You're goin' to give the summation," he said solemnly.

"Me?" said the younger man, getting up. "Oh, thank you!" He took his hand and shook it.

Out in the hallway a group had gathered around Zechariah — George, the girl in the green skirt, and a young instructor. A boy in horn-rimmed glasses came up to them.

"What a trial ' he said to Zechariah, who leaned against an open swinging door, his hand on a glass panel displaying in amateurish letters: COURTROOM ONE. "They have all kinds of evidence to prove their case," said the boy, "and yet they spend half the time talking about silly little things."

"They gained a victory," Zechariah said, "When they first were recognized by the Judge and stood up and spoke in this courtroom. A precedent no one can ignore. Nobody around here on the Judge's

side will mention that, but it can't be ignored."

"I see that sir, but why don't they forget Hibbs' silly questions about where people were born and whether the passengers interrupted the trip or not. They've got the Irene Morgan case and their evidence that interstate tickets were bought and that's it."

"I'll have to admit I agree with you," said Zechariah. "It seems to me that they have only to repeat one point. If an interstate railroad ticket doesn't entitle you to the privileges of an interstate passenger, then what does?"

The girl smiled approvingly.

"And did you notice Hibbs got Lester to say he couldn't identify the ticket and yet later Hibbs introduced the unused portion of that same ticket as important evidence on his side?" said Zechariah.

"I wish you were their lawyer," said the girl.

"Zechariah was embarrassed. "Let's go back," he said. On the way to the doorway post he thought: Im no lawyer but in some ways I could do better than they're doing."

"Why don't you talk to them now before the Judge comes in?" she said. He was tempted.

"No," he said, "it's their case. They're handling it. How would it make them feel?" He looked at her. "How would you feel if you were in their place?"

She started to answer, but said nothing. When they had regained their positions the young lawyer was already standing. Speaking quickly, in short spurts, with no broadness of accent, he leaned upon a closed law book, runing his fingers along the trimmed side, as if to reassure himself that his words were connected to the law. He was saying that segregation was illegal in interstate commerce because of the Irene Morgan case, and then abruptly he turned from that point as if it were unimportant.

"You have heard the witnesses—prosecution witnesses, if you will—admit that there were several chairs in the coach that were reversed, facing in opposite directions. And you may have wondered why the defense established that point so clearly. That fact is that the defendants, who were asked to reseat themselves—Mr. Roussy toward the front and Mr. Lester toward the rear—could not therefore be sure which was the front and which the rear. The conditions therefore for obeying to the letter the conductor's request and the police officer's order were ambiguous. We submit, consequently, that our clients were not even in clear and certain violation of the intrastate law applying to segregation of the races." He laughed and part of the audience joined him and Judge Riordan cut it all short with the gavel, hitting it sharply on the board before him.

"This is a court of law," he said sternly.

Lawyer Hibbs arose. Sweat had been showing in a beginning valley from his belt up the middle of his shirt, but he put on his white coat, taking it from his assistant, and tightened his tie.

"The defense has chosen to make this trial an issue of racial antagan-

ism," he said. "And that doesn't surprise me one bit, for you know as well as I do, that the man in this group came down here to make trouble for us, to poke their nose into something that is none of their business, to stir up hatred and strife if possible between the two races. I say to you all here that the two races have been getting along fine in our state under the existing laws and they will continue to get along fine, living in harmony, separated, if they are just left alone by outsiders. I am sorry that the race issue has been brought in here today, for as many people in this room well know, I myself have a number of the better colored persons in this town as my friends. I respect them and they respect me.'

Down in the first four rows a grumbling broke out and died quickly. A colored woman whispered to a friend ahead of her and a man turned around and grinned. At his side Zechariah heard George speak softly. "The bas-tad," he said and Zechariah thought it was the right thing to say. But it was easy to say something like that. Against people like Hibbs you had to bring all the collective strength and intelligence you could gather and—damn it, all the weight of law when it was on your side. And those two defense lawyers—it may have been a game for them once in their lives to publicly ridicule white lawyers and be insolent within the bounds of the law. He didnt' blame them for that, but didn't they realize something much bigger was at stake here? First there was the decision about segregation. And always there was the way they looked in public. Why act smart-aleck the first time you get a chance to practice in a court? And in this university village, of all places. Well, he thought, sighing, Ive said I will try to understand always.

"The segregation law of this state —" Hibbs was going on. He is a bastard, a dirty bastard, thought Zechariah—"is one of the best laws for regulating and keeping peace between races that we have. And I know, for I have studied many decisions arising out of this law. Applied as it is here in Hillsville, it is wise and reasonable. And I do not wish to see it, by violations, made more strict, for I think that would be a grave mistake. I say this because I remember the decision in 1940 of the State Supreme Court in a case in which it was argued that a physical barrier must be erected between portions of a car in which segregation is to take place. This barrier could be made of plywood and permanently nailed to the car or it could be a screen type that was removable. In this particular case—"

Judge Riordan, his chin propped with his hand, elbow on the edge of the bench, had closed his eyes as if to ponder inwardly the words of Lawyer Hibbs. George dropped a wad of tobacco—pang against the brass and plop in the water. Eyes turned toward the doorway. Zechariah smiled, standing there with both hands thrust into his seersucker coat pockets, Panama back on his head.

Hibbs went on, restraining himself carefully, speaking in a dry

tone that made his assertions sound tolerant and inevitable. He finished the discussion of physical segregation barriers and looked at the clock high on the side wall. Its heavy roman numerals showed twenty minutes to five. "Your Honor, I would like to cite one more precedent before ending my summation. I realize that according to my allotment of time I have only one minute left to go and I ask humbly that Your Honor permit me five additional minutes."

"Objection!" said the defense lawyers together.

"Objections overruled," answered Judge Riordan. "The time is granted you, Lawyer Hibbs. It happens that the defense used much less time than it was alloted and I see no reason why you should not have that extra amount accorded us."

"Thank you sir. It will not take me long, I assure you. There have been cases—" He paused, hunting for his words. "There have been cases that would make less cool heads demand more stringent segregation laws. In the same year I mentioned, 1940, a case came before the State Supreme Court involving the rape of a thirteen-year-old white girl by a Nigra gentlemen—"

"Objection!" shouted the stout defense lawyer, coming to his feet almost out of breath. "The prosecution is bringing in material which can have no possible connection with or bearing on this case."

Judge Riordan looked down and smiled. "Don't get so excited," he said. "Now I think Lawyer Hibbs is getting a little off the subject, but let's allow him to finish making his point first before deciding, shall we?"'

Hibbs resumed. "As I was saying, a case involving the rape of a thirteen-year-old white girl by a Nigra (he paused) gentleman (he waited for laughter and got it) who was caught on the white section of passenger train. The defense objects to my mentioning this, but I can only say this is a fact, and since when is it wrong to mention the truth, unsavory as it may be, in a court of law? I have nothing against the Nigra race, and those in the room who know me will testify to that. When I served as a judge of this honorable court myself several years ago, I leaned over backward to be fair to colored people brought here on trial. I gave them every break they deserved, and maybe more."

There were mutterings in the audience again.

"And now, Your Honor, I am almost through presenting the case for the prosecution, strange as that may sound. For I have but one fact to leave in your mind. And you know as a judge of this honored court that it is facts drawn from evidence that must decide this case, not hotheaded preachments about racial equality or some people's idea that the state law is not good enough for them—not any of these things, but facts. And I ask you to take with you into your chambers just this one fact, for on it alone rests this case."

He walked over to the little table and picked up two blue ticket stubs.

"The unused portion of two tickets would have taken the defendants from one state into another. They did not use that portion of their

tickets. This colored boy and this white man, neither of them, had the intention of traveling from one state to another nor did they actually travel from one state to another in the railroad coach on which they were arrested. Therefore, they were not interstate passengers." He sighed, moving his thumbs down his coat collar. "The prosecution rests."

Judge Riordan left the bench. He was gone only long enough to smoke a cigarette, and there he was again in the slat-backed chair, swinging like a little boy from one side to the other, weighing the words he must utter. He spoke slowly from the notes before him. First he ridiculed the defense contention that the reversed seats made it difficult to determine which was front and back in the car.

"The answer to that point is so obvious," he said dispassionately, "that it is hardly fitting to give it here. The front of a railroad coach —" He paused. "Is always that end nearest the engine which is pulling that train." The audience laughed and the Judge smiled. In five minutes he had summed up the remaining evidence.

"I find absolutely no proof," he said, "that these passengers were traveling in interstate commerce. I therefore find them guilty of violating the segregation law of this state pertaining to travel in public carriers and I sentence them herewith. Byron Lester, I am letting you off easily, for I think you may not know any better than to do what you have done. With this trial as a lesson, I think perhaps you will mend your ways. Pay the costs of the trial.

"George Roussy, I sentence you to costs and to thirty days in the county jail. I cannot adequately tell you how disappointed I am in you, a man of your race and education, who so flagrantly and knowingly breaks the law, and although you have been living in Idaho, you were born and raised in this part of the country and should certainly know better.

"Before we finish here, I want to say to the defendants and to everyone in this courtroom that I agree with Lawyer Hibbs that it is very unfortunate that the racial issue was injected into this trial, and I urge you all as citizens of this state to do everything in your power to promote harmony and order and to profit from the bad example set by these men on trial here today, men who desire to agitate and worsen relations between people of our region. The court is adjourned." He hit the gavel lightly and hurried to the anteroom.

The trial was over with the unbelievableness of all trial endings and the defense lawyers were smiling guardedly at each other. George looked at Zechariah and turned gracefully on one foot and was gone. The room and the stairway filled with talk and bodies, pressing close in the warm air. Zechariah wanted to get away and go home. He hurried down the stairs into the bright street.

Courtroom One, they call it, he thought. Small town defensiveness. There was only one courtroom in the building. What had gone on in there, anyway? Everything had been a travesty. The Judge and Hibbs were caricatures and the defense lawyers were out of their heads. He

came to the brick wall of the building that ran along the first block on his left and there was no feeling in his feet when they hit the sidewalk. His anger against the defense lawyers grew. He couldn't control it. The United States of America, he thought, must take credit for this act here today as well as for all other acts within its borders. He had always said that rage against a whole country was completely illogical; but the anger welled up in him, threatening to flood out all his carefully built dams of reason and prudence. It was just too much.

He pulled his mind back to the defense lawyers — hardheaded one minute, so bantam rooster showoff the next. A little suspicion moved in him. Had he understood why they had done all those things? Maybe— no, he thought, here I go again, giving men the benefit of the doubt because they are colored. They were stupid, he said to himself, and it made him feel better. Just plain, damnfool stupid.

These thoughts had spun in his mind while the wall lasted. He turned the corner into a crowd of late shoppers on the main street. Blocking his way was a woman carrying packages.

"Beg pardon," he said. "Oh, Mrs. Kimball."

"Mr. Smith! Hello!" She rearranged the brown sack in the crook of her arm, still blocking his way.

With an incredible effort he said, "How are you today?"

She touched his arm. "If you really want to know, I'm put out. They're all out of potato chips in here again. "She nodded toward the store at their side. "Well, I don't know why I should be surprised, really. But a supermarket! Imagine a supermarket being out of potato chips!"

He left Mrs. Kimball and walked on through the business district, past the quiet rows of residences where bushes stood motionless, heavy with blossoms and the fragrance of spring in his town.

DID YOU KNOW —

That Jean-Jacques Dessalines' first master was white and his second Negro? He was first known as "Jacques Duclos," after his white owner; whereas the patronymic Dessalines (originally Des Salines) came from his Negro master.

★ ★ ★

That South African whites who exhibit too much friendliness toward Natives are called *kaffirboetie*, equivalent to the American "nigger lovers"?

DYNAMIC OFFICERS *of the Texas state conference of the NAACP.*

MEMBERSHIP *drive workers in the membership campaign of the Milwaukee, Wisconsin, branch of the NAACP.*

KIVIE KAPLAN, *executive committee member and life member of the Boston, Massachusetts, branch of the NAACP has solicited nine life members for the Association.*

■ **How Machado de Assis minted his sickness and frustrations into pure literary gold**

A Great Negro Author Rediscovered

By William L. Grossman

One day the Devil decided to found a church. With a religious organization of his own he was confident that he could win a complete and final victory over the forces of good. Defiantly telling God his plan, the Devil explained that even God's churchgoers had a carnal, evil side to their nature. "Virtue," he said, "is like a queen whose silken mantle has fringes of cotton. I'll seize those fringes and pull the lady over to my side." He was indeed successful. He preached all the vices, and people flocked into his church. But after several years the Devil noticed that many of his devout followers were beginning to backslide: the gluttons were eating frugally in secret, dishonest politicians were returning money to the public treasury, etc. Finally, at his wits' end, he asked God for an explanation. "Poor Devil!" said the Lord. "Didn't you know that the cotton mantle had fringes of silk?"

THE fable here outlined was written, at considerably greater length, by Machado de Assis, the finest author that Latin America has produced and one of the eminent figures of world literature. Among other writers known to be wholly or partly Negro—and I am omitting contemporary writers, for we cannot yet see them in sufficient perspective—his nearest rival for pre-eminence is Alexandre Dumas *père*. To a sophisticated reader Machado is by far the more satisfying. He is, of course, less popular than Dumas, but to say this is to praise with faint damns. Translations of some of his works from Portuguese into French, Spanish, Italian, and German have won him a devoted following a literary connoisseurs. Now at last he is becoming available to readers of English, who have greeted his first translated novel with an appreciative understanding

DR. WILLIAM L. GROSSMAN *has recently returned to the New York University School of Commerce, Accounts and Finance after four years in Brazil. He is the translator of* EPITAPH OF A SMALL WINNER *and the author of several books.*

JOAQUIM MARIA MACHADO DE ASSIS

(*June* 21, 1839- *September* 29, 1908)

that would cause him tremendous elation; Machado was, in his literary taste, a pronounced Anglophile. But he would not reveal his elation, for he was also a man of great reserve. He sometimes referred contemptuously to expansive extroverts as people who "spill over." Indeed, what he most emulated in English writers, apart from their humor, was their restraint.

DISENCHANTED WRITER

The moral of the little fable is readily perceived: that the human heart contains a potential abundance of both good and evil, and that he who would understand man's nature must take full account of both. To have arrived at so moderate a conclusion represented for Machado something of a spiritual triumph. Recognition of the godlike in man was not easy for him. In his best-known works he is disenchanted about man and bitter about God—or rather about fate, for Machado was (despite the fable) a non-believer.

There is plenty of humor in Machado, but it is a sour humor, like Hamlet's when he feigns madness. As causes of Machado's bitterness, credit in part his early poverty and his physical debility. He suffered from a variety of illnesses, chief among them epilepsy, which for a shy man like Machado was a double plague.

Part of Machado's dim view of mankind resulted from his insight into motives and springs of human action. He ferreted out hypocrisy and self-deceit with such acumen that his readers are likely to be embarrassed at times when they see their own foibles exposed by him. For example, one of his characters finds a small amount of money and turns it over to the police, a deed that brings praise from his friends and causes him to feel immensely pleased with himself; subsequently he finds a much larger sum and concludes that Providence would not have placed so much money in his path if she had not intended it for him. No one else knows he has found the money, and he keeps it. How few of us have not been guilty of equally absurd rationalizations to circumvent our respective consciences, while we prided ourselves on relatively trivial acts of decency! Machado sugar-coats such pills with wit enough so that, if we are forced painfully to re-examine our self-estimates, we can at the same time laugh at ourselves. Thus, after deciding to keep the large sum, our hero's conscience becomes so tender that it pains him to hear himself still praised for his earlier act; and, when he seems annoyed at receiving the praise, people praise him all the more for being so modest.

PSYCHIATRIC APPROACH

Machado's psychological insight led him to adopt an almost psychiatric approach to many of his characters. Earlier than Freud, he perceived the mutual basis and indistinct boundaries of commonplace behavior, neuroticism, and outright insanity. One of his stories, for example, tells of a conscientious municipal psychiatrist who, applying a strict definition of abnormality, finds it logically necessary to incarcerate in his asylum the entire community.

A curious feature of Machado's fiction is that the reader is often not quite sure whether a particular character is sane or insane.

From the foregoing, one sees that certain adjectives may aptly be applied to Machado's work: psychological, realistic, humorous, ironic. But it was not always so. In Machado's early works, although these characteristics are occasionally noticeable, he was influenced by the French romanticism that dominated the literary environment not only of Brazil but of all Latin America. Only in his fortieth year (1879) did Machado openly rebel against it and only then did he begin to produce masterpieces. But, although he saw and subsequently avoided the romantic flight from reality, he avoided also the morbid realism which, in his later years, began to attract followers. Machado recognized and dealt with the tragic aspects of reality without losing his artistic detachment. In one of his novels, for example, he writes in a strictly objective style about a young Brazilian dying of leprosy; despite his hopelessly miserable situation, the young man is carrying on a heated debate by correspondence on the justice of military intervention in the Crimea—a poignantly ironic vignette and a thoroughly Machadian one, for Machado repeatedly shows men busily engaged in activities that are completely dwarfed by the magnitude of their personal tragedies.

WROTE ABOUT PEOPLE

We see, then, that Machado de Assis is a Negro writer only in the sense of a writer who happened to be part Negro. He wrote about people as such—their egotism, their hypocrisy, their whole personal inadequacy; in his greatest works racial conflict plays almost no part. Machado gives the eternal lie to the notion, apparently held by many American publishers, that a Negro can produce first-class literature only in the field of race problems.

Consider, for example, the novel *Epitaph of a Small Winner*, which I had the pleasure and the anguish of translating into English. (I say anguish, because many of Machado's phrases and thoughts are infinitely subtle.) It is the story of a rich playboy of Rio de Janeiro who has no object in life other than personal fame and the pleasure of the moment. The result is a life of frustration and semi-satisfaction. The hero's sex life, his efforts to philosophize, even his somewhat tardy charitable activities, all reflect the absence of a solid base in personal integrity. Apart from the omission of economic struggle (a struggle reflected sharply, however, in one of the other characters), this man's history, comic and tragic, is essentially a story of the vast majority of men—black, white, brown, or yellow. It is their personal adventure as individuals rather than as members of a gorup.

Did Machado not understand, then, that people *are* members of groups and that their lives reflect the positions of these groups in society? Machado was not one to run away from facts. But his peculiar talents enabled him to deal with the problems of group relations more incisively from a psychological than from a sociological base of opera-

tions. Take slavery, which was not abolished in Brazil until 1888. Instead of attacking it as a violation of fundamental rights, Machado exposed the sinister interplay between slavery and the minds of the individuals involved. In *Epitaph of a Small Winner,* the wealthy hero, when still a child, has a little slave boy as his personal servant; he rides him as if he were a horse, beating him with a stick and turning his head sharply to left and to right. When the slave boy grows up, his owner frees him; and one of the first things the ex-slave does is to buy a slave of his own and beat him at the slightest provocation. Thus slavery, or any other institution or relationship in which man's power over man is virtually unbridled, stimulates sadism, which in turn begets more sadism. Here as elsewhere, Machado considered effects on people more important than doctrines.

COLOR INFLUENCED WRITINGS

Again, although Machado did not deal with race problems as such, it would be a mistake to suppose that his writings were wholly uninfluenced by color consciousness. People who saw Machado tell us that he was not able to "pass"; and there was a certain amount of anti-Negro prejudice in Brazil even before the recent effects of American and other adverse (in this respect) foreign influences. However, the prejudice in Brazil was and still is weaker than in the United States; and, as pointed out by Roy Nash in this periodical, it varies with the degree of color, so that against a relatively light-skinned individual like Machado the prejudice becomes relatively light.

Machado's feelings about color were inextricably mingled with his feelings about his mother. She was a white woman from Portugal—although, as many of the Portuguese had Moorish ancestors, she may have been partly Negro. At any rate, she was ostensibly white, and Machado appears to have thought of her as white. She died when he was a small child. He was raised with great loving kindness by his mulatto stepmother, whom in his later life, however, he rarely or never visited. Machado's attitude towards color was doubtless influenced by his yearnings for his real mother, his white mother, and rejection of the darker woman who replaced her.

Only in the light of this background can one understand Machado's strange little story in which a young man, rejected by the girl of his choice, unexpectedly inherits a fortune; he thereupon announces his quest of a woman sufficiently pale to satisfy his extreme taste; he courts and then breaks off with one lady after another because he finds none of them pale enough; this quest ends only with the hero's death. The story obviously represents an unconscious search for mother — a common enough psychological phenomenon; but the insistence on her being extremely pale, *i.e.,* white, was probably connected with, among other things, the color of Machado's mother's skin and the environmental suggestion of white supremacy in a traditionally slave-holding society.

Also in the contribution that color-consciousness made to Machado's

(*Continued on page* 610)

CIVIL RIGHTS AND FAIR PRACTICES CONFERENCE—*Some of the delegates in attendance at the CRFPC held in Newark, N. J., on September 17. From left, James Callahan, District 410E, CIO treasurer; Joseph Iozzi, Local 440, IUE-CIO, president; Robert Clarke, IUE-CIO, international representative; Marie Dowdy, Local 480, IUE-CIO, negotiating committee; George Rozycki, Local 458, IUE-CIO, negotiating committee; Ramon Rivera, New York Urban League; Herbert Hill, labor relations assistant NAACP; and Paul Jennings, District 4, IUE-CIO, secretary.* BOTTOM: *Delegates from locals affiliated with IUE-CIO, District 4, attending conference.*

■ He is denied a job because he is black

Wanted a Compulsory Federal FEPC

By Constance Motley

HERE is the case history of a man seeking employment, a record which you would ordinarily find in the files of an employment agency. But because Karl C. Vann was required to furnish a photograph of himself, and/or indicate his race with each application, his case history is now in the legal files of the national office of the NAACP. It will probably wind up in a folder labeled: "Cases Demonstrating the Need for a Compulsory FEPC."

The NAACP has to file this case because there is very little, if anything, the Association can do for a man after being turned down by twenty-four radio stations in nineteen states, and only three of which have compulsory FEPC laws.[1]

The case history of Mr. Vann is an added reason why we must have a compulsory federal FEPC, since so far most of the states have failed to enact such legislation.[2]

Karl C. Vann, veteran of World War II, age 37, married, first class radio telephone operator license granted by the Federal Communications Commission, seeks position as 1) Radio Operator and/or Transmitter Engineer or 2) Electronic Laboratory Technician or 3) Radio Trouble Shooter or Electrical Tester.

EDUCATION

Pierce School of Radio & Television, N. Y.

Successfully completed the following courses:

1) Service and repair course covering AM, FM and Television receivers and transmitters.

2) Highly theoretical communications course embracing all aspects of transmitter functions, design and operation. Elected to Associate Membership in the Institute of Radio Engineers.

1935-1938

International Correspondence Schools, Scranton, Pa.

Correspondence course in Electrical Engineering.

1940

Brooklyn Technical Trade School

400 hours Radio course in Repair and Servicing. Graduated August 1940.

1930-1934

Brooklyn Technical High School

Graduated 1934. Courses accredited: Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Electrical Technology, Construction and Maintenance of Radio Receivers.

EXPERIENCE RECORD

Transmitter Engineer—Radio Station WOSC, 118 Oneida Street, Fulton, New York

Maintained in operation a radio broadcast transmitting station consisting of one transmitter. Tuned and adjusted transmitter and associated equipment. Traced circuits to detect breaks or shorts. Serviced, repaired, replaced and overhauled radio and electronic equipment such as oscillators circuit, amplifiers, relays, microphone antennaes, power panels and speakers. Operated sound recording equipment in studio and remote location.

(Dec. 1951-June 1952)

Communication Cable Splicer—Electrical Appliance Servicing Co., 919 Marcy Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Tested, spliced, sealed and wiped splices of insulated wires, aerial lead-covered cable and occasionally, submarine cable. Diagnosed and analyzed trouble, located shorts, grounds, wet wires, crosses and electrical resistance by using test equipment, such as exploring coil, tone sets, amplifiers and wheatstone bridge.

(Jan. 1946-Feb. 1947)

Radio Mechanic—United States Army Air Force

Operated radio stations. Inspected, repaired, modified and installed all types of army and commercial aircraft equipment, such as radio receivers, radio transmitters, radar sets, generators, motors, charging equipment, and intercommunication systems. Worked from schematics. Honorably discharged October 1, 1945.

(Aug. 1942-Oct. 1945)

Radio Technician—Haynes & Griffin Music Co., New York

Trouble shooter, repaired, overhauled, adjusted, calibrated and rebuilt commercial and communication type radio receivers, as well as many different makes and types of automatic record changers.

(Feb. 1940-Aug. 1942)

Electronic Test Equipment Repairer Kings Electric Co., Brooklyn, New York

Repaired and calibrated all types of test equipment and instruments. Tested, inspected and modified equipment to required specifications.

(Dec. 1936-Nov. 1939)

Applications For Employment

Made written application for employment as a Radio Transmitter Engineer with the following radio stations in response to Advertisements in the Help Wanted section of the magazine *Broadcasting Telecasting*: WLOW Norfolk, Va.; WHAN Charleston, S. C.; WDYK Cumberland, Md.; WCRO Johnstown, Pa.; WSYB Rutland, Vt.; WSSV Petersburg, Va.; WVCV Ithaca, N. Y.; WJRI Lenoir, N. C.; WJER Dover, Ohio; WENK Union City, Tenn.; WBBQ Augusta, Ga.; WLAR Athens, Tenn.; WFIG Sumter, S. C.; KPBM Carlsbad, N. Mex.; WGPA Bethlehem, Pa.; KCIL Houma, La.; WKIC Hazard, Ky.; WKPT Kingsport, Tenn.; WAOW Vincennes, Ind.; KFMB San Diego, Calif.; WLPM Suffolk, Va.; WBUY Lexington, N. C.; WLAD Danbury, Conn.; North Carolina Association of Broadcasters.

REFERENCES

1. Connecticut, New York, New Mexico (Complaints have been filed by legal staff in National Office on be-

half of Mr. Vann with the Connecticut and New York Commissions.)

2. Only eight states have compulsory Fair Employment Practices Commissions: Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Washington. One state, Colorado, has made its law compulsory only with respect to public employment. Two states, Indiana and Wisconsin, have FEPC laws without enforcement powers. Two states, Nebraska and Kansas, have set up committees to study the problem.

Twenty-eight cities have taken some action with respect to FEPC, thirteen of which are in the state of Ohio despite the fact that Ohio has no state FEPC law. These cities are East Chicago and Gary, Indiana; Chicago, Illinois; Denver, Colorado; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Minneapolis, Minnesota; New York City; Phoenix, Arizona; Richmond, California; Seattle, Washington; Sioux City, Iowa; the following Ohio cities: Akron, Campbell, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Girard, Hubbard, Lorrain, Lowellville, Niles, Steubenville, Struthers, Warren, Youngstown; and the following Pennsylvania cities: Farrell, Monessen, Philadelphia, and Sharon. The state of Pennsylvania, however, like Ohio, has no FEPC law.

Of these ordinances, four, those in Cincinnati, Richmond, Sioux City, and Phoenix, apply only to the city, its officers and agents. The one in Denver applies only to the city and county. Two of these cities, Akron and Seattle, have policy resolutions only which apply to public employment. New York City's ordinances apply to contractors and employment agencies. The Sioux City ordinance applies to persons granted franchises or licenses by the city. All the other ordinances apply to private employers.

The Minneapolis law applies to employers of two or more people. In Campbell, Hubbard, Lowellville, Niles, Struthers and Youngstown the laws apply to employers of ten or more. The rest of the ordinances apply to employers of one or more.

DID YOU KNOW —

That one of the brilliant teachers of fencing in old Louisiana was the Negro "Black Austin"?

Edward Larocque Tinker lists several famous Louisiana Negro masters of fencing in his "French Writings in Louisiana During the 19th Century."

★ ★ ★

That one of Peru's leading contemporary writers of short stories is the mulatto Enrique López Albújar (1875-)?

López Albújar's best known published works are *Andean Tales* (1920), *Matalaché*, and *New Andean Tales* (1937). López Albújar is a lawyer and judge.

★ ★ ★

That South Carolina had two Negro lieutenant-governors in Alonzo Ransier, in 1870, and Richard Gleaves, in 1872?

CONFERENCE DELEGATES—*Youth council and college chapter delegates in attendance at the September meeting of the Ohio State Youth Conference of chapters and councils.* BOTTOM: *Youth chapter and college chapter leaders discussing final plans of youth membership campaign with Herbert L. Wright (sixth from left), NAACP youth director, at youth meeting in New York City.*

DID YOU KNOW —

That General José de San Martin (1778-1850), liberator of Chile and Peru, had several regiments of Negroes in his army of liberation?

José Antonio Wilde remarks in his history of Negroes in Buenos Aires that Negro troops were "among the best troops in the national army."

■ This unique interracial group practices the proposition that "all men are created equal"

Brotherhood on the Campus

By Frederick Olson

IN Central Missouri an interracial group composed of both Jews and Protestants is practicing the "proposition that all men are created equal." The group members, who are students in Missouri University and Lincoln University, Missouri's state college for Negroes, learn the meaning of equality by eating together twice a month and exchanging opinions on current events.

Sponsored by the YMCA and the YWCA on both campuses, the club, which is now called the Lincoln University Current Events Group, has been demonstrating that friendly interaction under the guidance of alert leaders can dispell stereotypes and misconceptions held by members of both races. Members of the group who lacked strong convictions either positive or negative are in most cases converted to whole hearted support of racial equality. Naturally those who have no rigid opinion on the "race problem" are usually white students who have never tasted discrimination or have had no previous contact with Negroes. However, Jewish members often manifest a deep and sympathetic understanding of discrimination.

Club members meet twice a month for a fellowship supper and discussion directed by student leaders. On the first Thursday on each month Missouri University students drive to Jefferson City, a distance of 30 miles, to meet in the Lincoln University home economics parlor. Lincoln University students return the visit to Missouri University on the third Thursday of each month.

Food for the supper is cooked by members of the group and served cafeteria style. Loud conversation and hearty jokes punctuate the clatter of silverware as members from each university review the other's

FREDERICK OLSON is now a member of the Group Ministry, a governing body for the West Side Christian Parish, an interracial group in the Chicago, Ill., slums.

social life. A "let's eat the lunch" attitude is the reaction of many students to the interracial supper, but other eat with a distinct consciousness that sharing the same butter-knife is a hallmark of brotherhood. New members are inclined to shyly hunt a solitary table until rousted out by less inhibited members who have been in the group longer.

FOOD IMPORTANT

The relationship between fraternity and food was made quite clear by the group's oldest member, Benjamin Dennis, who can judge American discrimination with perspective because he is a Liberian citizen. "I first experienced segregation in a Washington D. C. restaurant a few days after I arrived in this country," he explained. "A waitress refused to serve me and being a foreigner I didn't know why until a bystander explained. Then I felt mean, so when I got to Lincoln University I was very glad to join this group."

After eating, the students seat themselves in a large circle and begin discussion under the informal guidance of leaders chosen from the group. The club is not an intellectual forum; consequently, discussion centers around topics of current interest such as the steel strike, point four, and the presidential candidates. Everyone is free to air his own theory or opinion: a relaxing diversion for students tired of hearing professors expound in the classrooms.

Ordinarily Negro problems are not a formal topic of discussion; because heated debates often arise on matters that are charged with much less emotion. The group leaders, who have a sense of pioneering in changing unfavorable attitudes, feel that concentration on race would only serve to over emphasize prejudice. Nevertheless, Negro problems are often discussed quite intimately during the suppers and informal coffee breaks.

Avoidance of formal discussions of race problems is a strength rather than a weakness of the group. "We could prove equality with every argument in the book but that still wouldn't bring about warm friendships," explained Miss Steib, one of the group leaders. "We have a more effective challenge " The "more effective challenge" is the group's emphasis on brotherhood, or a common sonship to God. Group sponsors and leaders seek to prove to new members that discrimination against race, creed, or class is an affront to God. "Individuals excuse themselves when they reject man-made proofs, but a man must deal with his conscience when he rejects the law of God," declared Miss Steib. This creed, shared by the older members of the group, is not at first apparent to the outsider. There is no hint of preaching from the sponsors and leaders, but the newcomer soon becomes aware of their deep conviction and before long he too shares the belief.

GROUP LEADERS

The group leaders are Lillian Gines, a student at Lincoln University, and Marion Steib, a white student at Missouri University. They are responsible for crystalizing group policy but their biggest job is recruiting membership. The group has

MEMBERS *of the interracial Lincoln university current events group at supper. Food was found to be an effective promoter of fraternal relations.*

about 26 members: twelve from Lincoln University and fourteen from Missouri University. One of the Missouri University members is a Negro who has joined since Missouri admitted Negroes to her state university. This year members of another minority—Jewish students from the Missouri University Hillel foundation—joined the group. Their enthusiastic Rabbi had read of resentment between Negroes and Jews in other parts of America. One way, he felt, to avoid that in Missouri was to introduce members of the two racial and religious minorities to each other. Leaders of the discussion group were glad to support his ideas and the Jewish students were soon a part of the club.

When first organized in 1947 thoughtful members of Lincoln Universities Christian Association were looking for a method of doing their share in solving the "race problem." After deciding that one of the biggest bars to racial equality was that Negroes and whites really don't know each other, they invited some Missouri students to their campus. One

of the first interracial meetings was a party held in the home of a student who lived in Jefferson City. Prejudiced neighbors discovered the interracial character of the party and called the police. A squad car soon arrived but policemen quite sensibly refused to take action against either race. In the morning, however, the landlord forced the student who had acted as host to vacate his home.

The party attracted the attention of professional YMCA directors at Missouri University. Seeing an opportunity for racial fraternity, they moved in to give the group the stability that made its existence possible after its original members had graduated. The Christian Association at Lincoln University cooperated with the YMCA in providing sponsorship, funds, and meeting places. One of the early problems, new nonexistent, was that Lincoln University students were not allowed in Missouri University buildings. After being rebuffed by the administration the group began meeting in the university YMCA director's home.

The senior sponsor and main sparkplug of the group is W. B., "Dean", Jason, vice-president of Lincoln University. Speaking from year's of experience in dealing with discrimination he says, "Many people misunderstand the term racial equality and fail to get a true concept of brotherhood. Our group has helped all members to understand the real meaning of Christian brotherhood through exchange of opinion." "Dean" Jason has fought tirelessly to bring more of his students into the group. He has attracted many students from the fringe of prejudice who for various reasons felt diffident about the other race. "Many Negro students doubted that there were groups who sincerely would accept them as brother," he explained. "Some of them now realize that they haven't been pulling forward themselves due to their own prejudice. Brotherhood is a two way thing."

INDIVIDUALS HESITANT

"Dean" Jason's co-sponsor from Missouri University is Russell Wigfield, YMCA director and professional expert on the use of discussion in solving social problems. He has found that students like to verbalize their support of brotherhood. "But try to get them to do anything about it," he said. "Individuals are naturally hesitant to take a solitary stand on issues that society frowns upon," he explained. "In a group they learn the attitudes that will make them good leaders after they leave college."

Both sponsors concentrate on effecting permanent changes in attitude. They hope that members of the group will be leaders in their home communities after graduating. A mark of the sponsor's success is that many students have overcome negative atttiudes in spite of their parent's opposition. One girl whose home is near the university joined the group in spite of parental disapproval. "Because of my parent's prejudice I'd never had the nerve to join with Lincoln University students if I hadn't known that many of my friends were in the group," she said. She has been forced to fol-

(*Continued on page* 610)

THIS MIXED GROUP *at the NAACP west coast conference in Asilomar, California, are a few of the* 125 *delegates who attended this unusual interracial conference.*

Editorials

DR. LOUIS T. WRIGHT

DR. LOUIS T. WRIGHT died at his home in New York City on October 8. For 40 years he was connected with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and for 20 years as the chairman of its board. Dr. Wright made abolition of second-class citizenship for Negroes his life work. With him this was not an occasional and sporadic fight, it was a twenty-four struggle in the battle against oppression and moral dyspepsia. To him the God's-in-His-heaven attitude, which today taints so many successful Negroes, was anathema. For a Negro to lack self-assertion, high ideals, and a good dose of rebelliousness was, he felt, a cowardly concession to expediency. And one of his great achievements was his ability to infect his friends and fellow workers with this spirit and faith in the ultimate triumph of the NAACP cause.

What took Dr. Wright the research scientist and surgeon out of the laboratory and the operating room into the community was his persistent drive to help folk realize their ideals and desires. He united great strength of character with high intelligence; wit with simplicity; logic with enthusiasm; kindness with discipline; and vision with humor. Let the Negro never be accused of forgetting this great American champion of equality and integrity or of forsaking the goals which he set.

AFRICA AWAKES

RECENT headlines screech "Terror in Kenya," "Non-White Defiance," "Race Riot in South Africa." Behind these headlines is the story of an awakening Africa. Kicked out of Asia and most of the Pacific islands, white imperialism now tries to recoup its fortunes in Negro Africa. It is the same old imperialism, but the phrases and the slogans are new. The British call it "colonial development and welfare"; the French, "incorporating natives into the French Union."

There was a universal belief in Britain that all was well within her African colonies. It seemed that the natives accepted British rule gladly, delightedly. Then came the war and virtual British bankruptcy. She lost India, Burma, Ceylon, etc. But the Tories in the Colonial Office decided to hold on at all costs to Africa; to make of the continent what George Padmore calls Britain's "third empire." But Africans quickly showed that they did not regard British rule as the millenium. They began to demand independence or at least dominion status with the maximum of self-government. And

England has had to make concessions to local demands in Nigeria and in the Gold Coast.

THE French, on the other hand, have never envisioned independence for any of their colonies, African or otherwise. Yet they have had to make some concessions to native nationalism, which they have tried to do by creating the French Union. Theoretically, all members of the Union are equal. Actually, however, authority still stems from Paris and native leaders of nationalist movements are arrested and jailed, or exiled.

Imperialism has been weakened in Africa, but it has not been liquidated. Europe still expects Africa to supply foodstuffs, raw materials, big African armies, and to provide military, naval, and air bases. Europe wants an Africa for the European, not an Africa for Africans. That is why Africans look with scepticism upon the "new" colonial policies. Where concessions are hesitantly made the natives regard them as sops to expediency, not as sincere efforts at reform. This suspicion is an outcome of continual disappointments and broken promises, extending in many instances over centuries.

Added to the old distrust is the rise of Malanism in South Africa. White insolence and racial discrimination are nothing new in South Africa. What is new is that a present-day government makes racism a government policy. South Africa likewise has the distinction of being the only country in the world to narrow people's political rights in recent years; to proclaim "a new racial order" and play the role of bitter-end champion of white supremacy. This rampant racialism extends even to business, where corporations are classified according to the race of the persons holding controlling interest.

NATIVES are rebelling against these segregative restrictions with a passive resistance movement. They are flouting curfew and pass laws and going to jail in an effort to make the statutes ridiculous and inoperative. Though defiance of the segregation laws is gaining momentum, there has so far been little violence.

Trouble in Kenya, East Africa, stems from similar economic and political conditions. Whites wield all the political power, own more than half of the land on the plateau (the lowlands are of little value to anybody), and pursue a color-bar almost as rigid as that in South Africa. Native reaction was organization of the East African Association in the 20's to protect Kikuyu land rights. The British reply was to arrest and deport, without trial, Harry Thuku, the EAA leader. Then the Kenya African Union was organized by four African members of the Kenya Legislative Council. Now the Mau Mau, a secret society, has resorted to violence because many natives think the KAU too conservative and they have lost faith in the white man's good intentions and promises.

Native hostility in South Africa and Kenya are time bombs which will eventually blast Europe out of Africa.

■ A glimpse of the Arabic community in Israel

The Arabs in Israel

By *Irene Diggs*

THEORETICALLY anyone who speaks Arabic or lives in an Arab country is an Arab. Three quarters of a million Arabs, in keeping with this definition, once lived in what is now Israel. Before the partitioning in 1948 there were perhaps a million and a quarter Arabs in Palestine. Today there are about 180,000 Arabs in the state of Israel. Of the 750,000 Arab refugees seeking protection and aid from the United Nations about 200,000 are in the Arab part of Palestine; 180,000 are in the Gazah area; 100,000 are in Trans-Jordan; 100,000 in Lebanon and smaller numbers are in Syria, Iraq, and Egypt.

Of the 180,000 Arabs in Israel today perhaps 120,000 are Moslems, 35,000 Christians and 15,000 Druzes. The Druzes tend to regard themselves as a "nation within a nation." They speak Arabic, are antagonistic toward Moslems, and tend to be friends of the Israeli.

We are told that in Israel today the average Arab villager is better off then he ever was before or when compared with Arabs elsewhere in the world. Nevertheless, there is a tremendous difference in the standard of living between Jew and Arab. Theoretically wages for Jew and Arab are equal, in practice they may not be. In theory both have the same rights, privileges and responsibilities, except that "universal" conscription does not apply to Arabs. In 1948, thirty thousand Arabs had the right to vote and in the recent election about 80,000 were eligible to vote. Two Israeli parties, the Communists and Maipam, had Arab candidates. There were three Arabs in the previous parliament. Arabs seek to be integrated into Histadrut, which among other things, is a Federation of Trade Unions.

Unfortunately the Arabs are not geographically distributed in Israel. They are not only concentrated but constitute majorities in various communities in Galilee. Nazareth is an Arab town. Arabs in Israel lack the usual social, cultural, and political structures because they are a refugee or uprooted people consisting primarily of laborers and peasants. They have few professionals and

DR. IRENE DIGGS, *who spent some time in Israel in* 1951, *teaches anthropology at Morgan State College, Baltimore, Maryland.*

members of the "upper crust." With the exception of Catholic and Communist groups the Arabs in Israel are without important leaders because the leaders not only ordered the Moslems to leave but fled themselves. Perhaps the most important Arab leader in Israel today is the Greek Orthodox Archbishop.

The children of Jews and Arabs do not attend the same schools. One hundred co-educational government schools are provided the Arab children between six and thirteen years of age and more than 25,000 are in school. About thirty-four percent of the students are girls. There are at present no qualified Arab teachers in Israel since formerly the Arab teachers were "selected" by the British and are not now considered "suitable." There are about fifty private schools, supported by church and missionary groups, with some five thouand students.

There are two Arab newspapers in Israel: a daily edited by a Jew with an Arab staff and an Arab weekly edited by members of the Communist party.

Some anxiety exists because the Communist party is making headway among the Arabs. Communists are said to exploit the complaints of Arabs. Two members of the previous Israeli parliament were Communists. Arab Communist groups are perhaps the only Arab ones with adequate leadership, with the exception of the Catholic groups. The Communist leaders did not run away. The international directive did not oppose Israel's war of independence.

Are the Arabs loyal to Israel? A most difficult question to answer. Arabs outside Israel do threaten Israel and have not as yet recognized its existence. Concentrations of Arabs on the frontiers of Israel do present grave problems. Just over the borders are friends, former neighbors and relatives of the Arabs living in Israel. Arabs are active in smuggling and contraband and these activities are carried on with the enemies of Israel. Israel's borders cannot be guarded adequately with the limited manpower available. There are many infiltrators. Perhaps 18,000 Arabs live illegally in Israel, while almost 25,000 infiltrators have been legalized.

Neither a solution nor even an attitude toward the Arab problem in Israel seems to have crystallized. There are various possibilities: Hebraization, religious autonomy, migration and assimilation. Meanwhile there is an attempt to make Arabs full legal citizens without discrimination, to provide them equality before the law, and equality in day-to-day life in Israel.

DID YOU KNOW —

That twenty-five of the 103 State Convention delegates called in 1867 to draft a new Virginia state constitution were Negroes?

Looking and Listening . . .

RACE LABELING

RACIAL stereotypes and racial labeling of crime stories does more, perhaps, than anything else to justify Negro discrimination. Dehumanize a people, or brand them as "criminals," and one easily falls prey to the type of argument advanced by this 70-year-old Georgia woman.

She was apparently outraged by something that Norman Thomas said on a Town Hall program, so she wrote him anonymously and enclosed four clippings from Georgia newspapers in justification of her belief that the country is going to pot in racial relations because segregation is crumbling.

In the clippings which she sent Mr. Thomas, the race labeling is used in every instance in reference to a crime committed by a Negro. For example, "Two Atlanta Negroes slain. . . . Police Thursday jailed a 33-year-old Negro woman on suspicion of murder. . . . Negro man snatches purse. . . . Negro arrested on drunk-speed assault charge. . . ."

Here are some excerpts from her letter to Mr. Thomas:

Dear Mr. Thomas: Recently when I heard your remarks on Town Meeting of the Air, I thought how profitable to you (and others) it would be if you could spend one or two years in the South and change your views to those based on *facts* rather than *theory*. It is easy to theorize when we are far from the scene. We see that illustrated in Washington all too often.

And when I say South, I do not mean Florida, and certainly not Miami, which is settled largely by northern gangsters, labor union leaders, and rich Jews, along with a number who serve them. But even in Miami they have their racial troubles! I was told last winter that when some Negroes demanded the use of the golf links, the white people refused to go and naturally withdrew maintenance fees. You can't force people to associate with those whom they do not wish. . . .

Last summer I spent several weeks in Chicago and Indiana and I was sincerely shocked to see and feel the anti-racial feeling existing in that section. A woman of high intelligence said to me as we sat at dinner in a Chicago hotel:

'It is so much better the way you have it in the South. Up here we have no segregation, the Negroes push themselves, the whites resent it, hence the tension. In the South you say frankly you have segregation and you can be friends on that basis.'

And this was certainly true until outside propaganda, which the race had not enough moral fibre to withstand, caused many of them to become cantankerous in manner, making themselves obnoxious in their assumed dignity. There was a time when the white loved the colored people, and the Negroes loved their white friends. Now it seems nobody loves anybody. . . . There is no use to make the South the scapegoat in this matter. . . .

NEW FIELDS

A RECENT release of the John Hay Whitney Foundation, which awards annual opportunity fellowships to Americans who are artificially restricted because of racial and other barriers, calls attention to the increasing tendency of Negro fellows to prepare for and enter new fields. One of these is foreign service.

Among the 1952-53 Negro fellows, Mercer Cook, Jr., is now in Paris where he will continue his graduate work at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques preparatory to entering the State Department. James T. Harris, Jr., under his fellowship, is completing his Masters Degree at Princeton. He plans to become a specialist in the Middle East. An earlier fellow, Andrew Brimmer, who received his M. A. in economics at the University of Washington, became a Fulbright fellow to India and is now in the graduate school of public administration at Harvard where he will continue his studies of the economy of India.

One of the early recipients of an opportunity fellowship was Romeo A. Cherot, who pursued Russian studies under his award. Today he is a reviewer with Radio Free Europe in New York City where he works on broadcasts to countries behind the Iron Curtain.

Another pioneer is Samuel J. Cullers, a Fisk graduate, who received his M. A. in city planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Upon graduation he was appointed as senior planner with the Hartford, Conn., Redevelopment Authority. When Charles Lee Bruce completed his Ph. D. in zoology at the University of Michigan, with the assistance of an opportunity fellowship, he was placed in charge of the microbiology section of the Components Laboratory at the Detroit Arsenal.

"These and other opportunity fellows," explains director Dr. Robert Weaver, "are making more real the promise of American democracy while they develop their talents more fully and quickly."

SOUTH AFRICA

THE *Pretoria News* (August 8, 1952) reports that the Afrikaanse Studentebond is going to appeal to the Union Government to enforce total segregation of students in certain universities where Europeans and non-Europeans intermingle in classes and elsewhere. The Bond has reaffirmed its belief in the basis of separate institutions in respect of the different racial groups in South Africa, and upholds apartheid as far as non-Europeans are concerned. The Bond wants all non-Europeans students accommodated at institutions such as Fort Hare and Wentworth.

WEST GERMANY

WHILE South Africa bustles backward racially, West Germans are trying to blot out the legacy of Nazi racialism. Confronted with the problem of thousands of brown babies, Germans have decided to assimilate them. In line with this policy German educators have adopted a textbook for their primary and secondary schools to help teachers and students understand the human prob-

lems involved. Title of the booklet is *Maxi, unser Negerbub* (Maxi, Our Negro Lad) and it is published by Eilens & Schunëmann of Bremen. Beautifully illustrated with pictures of handsome brown children, the 45-page text anticipates and explains all the questions which might arise in connection with "occupation-children."

These children of mixed parentage have been subject of many editorials in the German press and increased German interest in human and race problems generally, especially Negro problems. One of the biggest German picture magazines carries a comic strip by the famous Brinkmann in which he has a Negro girl who has been adopted by a German family and is being reared with the rest of the children. One of Germany's best directors, Stemmle, is going to shoot a movie dealing with the problem of a Negro child is postwar Germany.

NEGRO TEACHERS

THE following excerpt comes from the bulletin of the New Jersey Division Against Discrimination, department of education, Newark:

A survey on the number and placement of Negro teachers in New Jersey shows that the integration of the public schools has resulted in increased job opportunities for Negro teachers. In 1948, when the desegregation of schools in nine southern New Jersey counties was undertaken, fears had been voiced on the one hand, that integration would create racial friction, and on the other hand, that an integrated school system would decrease the number of employment opportunities for Negro teachers. As to the former, good will guided by common sense and moral courage has maintained an unbroken record of good relations in all communities affected.

In 1945-46, 395 Negro teachers were employed in elementary, and 20 in secondary schools, or a total of 415 in the nine counties that maintained segregated schools. The survey of Negro Teacher Placement revealed that there were 391 elementary and 34 secondary Negro teachers, or a total of 425 in these same counties as of June 1952.

No report has been made of a Negro teacher losing her position due to a program of racial integration in the public school system. It was reported and verified, however, that three or four Negro teachers were retired and several were released prior to their securing of tenure just before the completion of three years' service with several local school systems. . . .

The placement of Negro teachers in the elementary schools of New Jersey has increased 27.9 per cent in the last six years. In 1945-46 there were 455 elementary school teachers, whereas today there are 582. There has been an increase of 39 Negro teachers in the secondary level; a total of 24 secondary teachers in 1945-46 compared to 63 in the year 1951-52. Considering teachers both on the elementary and secondary levels, there was an increase of 34.8 per cent Negro teachers throughout the State between 1945-46 and 1951-52. In 1945-46 there were 479 Negro teachers in all levels of public schools, and in June 1952 there were 645 Negro teachers.

There has been a rapid rise in the total number of Negro teachers employed in the northern counties of New Jersey in the last six years. In 1945-46 there were only 64 elementary teachers in the northern counties compared with a total of 157 Negro teachers as of June 1952. On the secondary level, there were four Negro teachers in the high schools of the northern counties, while in June 1952 there were 29 Negro teachers. Since June 1952, the total

number of Negro teachers in the elementary and secondary school levels has increased. . . .

NAACP PRAISED

THIS penerating compliment on the work of the NAACP comes from the October 3, 1952, issue of The Catholic Universe Bulletin of Cleveland, Ohio:

One of the finest and most forward-looking organizations in the U. S. is keeping its 43rd birthday this year. This is the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. It was in 1909 that 53 Americans of many racial origins banded together to right the wrongs that were being perpetrated against a large segment of American citizens. It has made wonderful strides.

The association is one of America's best friends. It seeks to make a reality of the democracy of which we boast. America plays a larger part in the world scene than it did in 1909. We stand before the nations as the greatest proponent in all history of the rights of all mankind. Yet, our stand on the home front has often contradicted our stand on the world front. Our treatment of 15 million Negroes in our midst has not been a pretty picture. Yet, its colors are not as dark as they once were. This change has been wrought in great part by the NAACP. . . .

The organization's work is by no means completed. We feel that for the continued welfare of America it should go on. But that is possible only through the cooperation of all citizens of good will. The NAACP perpetuates its good work by an annual membership drive.

We earnestly ask all to sign up for this noble task of assigning to all of God's human creatures the rights with which He has endowed them.

PICTURED *here are well known Ohio attorneys who are members of the legal committee of the Ohio state conference of NAACP branches just after they had participated in a civil-rights panel at the annual meeting of the conference held in Columbus September* 19-21.

Along the N.A.A.C.P. Battlefront

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Field Staff: The Association has appointed two new field secretaries. Robert W. Saunders of Tampa has been employed to replace the martyred Harry T. Moore of Florida. Charles McLean of Winston-Salem has been assigned to work in North Carolina.

A veteran of World War II, Mr. Saunders was graduated from the Detroit Institute of Technology after having started his college training at Bethune-Cookman college in Florida. He also studied at the University of Cincinnati. He has been employed as a newspaperman in Cincinnati and as a factory worker in Detroit where he was active in his local of the United Automobile Workers, CIO.

Mr. McLean, who directed the successful NAACP drive to increase Negro registration in North Carolina, is a businessman and a former government employee with the United States Treasury Department. A graduate of West Virginia State college, he has long been active in the NAACP and other civic affairs in North Carolina.

Appointment of these new staff members is part of an expansion program to put more NAACP secretaries in the field, concentrating upon particular areas. They will assist the branches and state conferences in membership campaigns, development of local and state programs, conducting of registration and voting drives, and legislative work.

SCHOOLS

Exit Jim Crow: Another southern Illinois town, Ullin, has admitted Negro students to its formerly all-white high school for the first time.

Negro high school pupils of Ullin, who formerly had to travel more than twenty-five miles each way to school in Mound City, were registered in September without incident at the Ullin high school after the Pulaski county branch helped secure transfers for them. Ullin is forty-five miles from Cairo where integration of the public school system was recently achieved.

Illinois law prohibits segregation in public schools and provides that state funds may be withheld from any school district that practices racial segregation.

Exit Jim Crow Seating: Segregation of Negro and white students in the study hall of the township high school in Sparta, Illinois, has been eliminated under the leadership of Milton Gleghorn of the local branch.

Formerly, all Negro students were seated in the back row of the study hall regardless of their grade, whereas white students were assigned seats in the front rows on the basis of grade. With the opening of the school term on September 29 this practice was abandoned. All students are now seated accordingly to grade, irrespective of race.

Assisting the branch in successful negotiations with the school board were June Shagaloff, a field secretary of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc., and Billy Jones, East St. Louis attorney.

Tamms School: Tamms is another Illinois town to join this parade of communities opening their formerly all-white schools to Negro students for the first time. They attended classes without incident after June Shagaloff held conferences with schoolboard officials and began planning action in the event that the students were refused admission. State aid to the Tamms school district was held up last spring by the county superintendent of schools, in accordance with Illinois law, when the Cairo branch filed suit to end segregated schools in that city.

Youth Drive: A nationwide drive for 20,000 new NAACP youth members was launched in October under the direction of Herbert L. Wright, youth secretary. Mr. Wright has announced that 1952 membership in youth and college chapters is fifteen percent ahead of the total for a comparable period last year.

NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NAACP

The nominating committee has nominated the following persons for membership on the national board of directors of the NAACP for the term January 1, 1953 to December 31, 1955:

KELLY ALEXANDER

President North Carolina State Conference of Branches. Organized Charlotte N. C. Branch. Ass't. Mgr. Alexander's Funeral Home, Charlotte, N. C. Member of the National Board of Directors since 1950.

WALTER CARRINGTON

Everett, Mass. National Vice-Chairman, Students for Democratic Action (1951), Member, National Board, Americans for Democratic Action (1951); Youth Speaker at 42nd Annual Convention of NAACP; Mem-

ber, National Nominating Committee, NAACP 1951-1952; Chairman of NAACP delegation to the Young Adult Council (1951); NAACP delegate to World Assembly of Youth, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y. 1951; Delegate to World Assembly of Youth, Dakar, French West Africa, 1952. Student Harvard Law School 1952.

DR. ALLAN KNIGHT CHALMERS

Formerly pastor of the Broadway Tabernacle, N. Y. At present Professor of Preaching and Applied Christianity of School of Theology of Boston University. Present member of Board since 1938.

DR. W. MONTAGUE COBB

Professor of Anatomy, Howard University, Washington, D. C. Chairman Council of Medical Education and Hospitals; Member National Medical Committee of NAACP. Member of Board since 1950.

DR. NATHAN K. CHRISTOPHER

Former President Cleveland, Ohio, Branch NAACP. Funeral Director. Member of Board since 1947.

DR. GEORGE D. FLEMMINGS

President Fort Worth, Texas, Branch NAACP. Present member of Board since 1947.

DR. BUELL GALLAGHER

President College of the City of New York. Former President Talladega College. Member of the Board from 1943 to 1948.

DR. HARRY J. GREENE

Dentist. Member executive committee, Philadelphia Branch. Long time worker in NAACP in Philadelphia and Pennsylvania. Member Pennsylvania State Council for FEPC. Present member of Board since 1950.

EARL G. HARRISON, ESQ.

Philadelphia, Pa. Former Dean of the Law School of the University of Pennsylvania. Testified in Sweatt and Sipuel Cases.

MRS. LILLIE M. JACKSON

President Baltimore, Md., Branch NAACP and President Maryland State Conference of Branches. Member of Board since 1948.

CARL R. JOHNSON

President Kansas City, Mo., Branch NAACP. Attorney who has assisted National Legal staff on cases. Long time worker for NAACP. Present member of Board since 1950.

JOHN W. LEWIS, JR.

Baton Rouge, La. Chairman of the Legal Redress Committee of the Louisiana State Conference of Branches of the NAACP, and also Grand Master of Prince Hall Masons in Louisiana. For years he has been active in support of NAACP legal cases in Louisiana and throughout the southwest region.

PHILIP MURRAY

President Congress of Industrial Organizations, Washington, D. C. Present member of Board since 1947.

THEODORE SPAULDING

Lawyer. Former president of the Philadelphia, Pa., Branch, NAACP. Member of Board since 1944.

DR. ROBERT C. WEAVER

Director, Opportunity Fellowships, John Hay Whitney Foundation; Visiting professor school of education, NYU. Member of Board since 1951.

DR. LOUIS T. WRIGHT

Surgeon, Surgical Director in Chief, Harlem Hospital, NYC. Member American College of Surgeons, Chair-

man NAACP Board of Directors. Member of Board since 1928.

The Association's Constitution provides:

"Independent nominations may be made by petitions signed by not less than thirty members of the Association in good standing by filing the same with the Secretary *not later than November* 1 of each year. The Secretary shall send to each branch of the Association not later than November 15 of each year a ballot containing the nominations of the Nominating Committee, plus the nominations by independent petition. Each branch at its annual meeting shall by vote of the members present make its choices for the members of the Board of Directors. The said choices shall be marked upon the ballot submitted by the Secretary and the said ballot shall be signed by the president and secretary of the branch and must be returned to the national office not later than December 31 of each year. The said ballots shall be held by the Secretary in a safe place until the annual meeting.

"At each annual meeting the said ballots shall be opened by a committee selected at said annual meeting and counted on the following basis:

	Members		*Votes*
Branches of from	50	to 100	2
	100	500	3
	500	1,000	4
	1,000	2,500	5
	2,500	5,000	6
	5,000	10,000	8
	10,000	20,000	9
Over	20,000		10

"Any ballot or ballots containing the name or names of any persons for election to the said Board not nomiated in accordance with the Constitution shall be void."

QUEENS AND ATTENDANTS, *with branch officers, participating in queens rally of Tri-County (Middlesex, Essex and Gloucester) Virginia fund raising campaign.*

What the Branches Are Doing

California: The district court of appeals in California has ruled that damage suits may not be maintained against a white person who sells race-restricted real property to a Negro. The case was argued last June 18 by attorney Loren Miller, chairman NAACP west coast legal redress committee, who entered the case at the request of the Association.

"Racial discrimination is inherent in race restrictive covenants," said Justice Paul Vallee in speaking for a unanimous court. "The purpose and impact is to prevent the use or occupancy of real property by non-Caucasians, to segregate non-Caucasians — that and nothing more." Use of state courts to effect these ends would violate the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment, the court held.

The case arose in February 1951 when Mrs. Leola Jackson was sued by neighbors for sale of her East 66th Street property to a Negro family. She had signed a race restrictive agreement in 1944. The lower court dismissed the action on the ground that it did not state a valid cause of action and the complainants, led by Olive Barrows, appealed.

This California decision brings to four the number of states in which higher courts have ruled on the question of whether or not damages can be secured where sales are made in violation of racial covenants. The first such case arose in Missouri in 1949 and that state's supreme court held that such suits are permissible. Oklahoma followed suit in 1951 with another, holding to the effect that both Negro buyers and white sellers are liable to other signers of an agreement where race restricted property is sold in violation of that agreement. Michigan reversed the trend with a ruling early in 1952 in which its supreme court held that damages may not be collected through the courts.

The California court rested its holding squarely on the race restrictive cases decided by the United States Supreme Court in 1948. "In the light of the restrictive covenant cases it is the duty of the courts of this state to refrain from exerting judicial power to give legal sanction and effect to racial restrictive covenants in an action at law for damages," Justice Vallee explained.

The NAACP has hailed the decision as foreclosing further efforts to secure legal aid to enforce covenants. It pointed out that the result of success in damage suits would have been to prevent sales of real property to Negroes, since no owner would have made a sale if he could have been held liable for damages. In its opinion the court of appeals held that "no state sanction, direct or indirect, can constitutionally be imposed for the breach of a restrictive covenant if such sanction would result in the denial of any civil right guaranteed by the Constitution."

Miller said that he did not know whether or not an attempt would be made to appeal the decision to the United States Supreme Court, but he said that he doubted that any such attempt would be successful.

Franklin Williams, west coast re-

gional NAACP director, in commenting on the decision, called it the answer to the threat of the Rollingwood Improvement Association to institute a lawsuit for damages because of the sale of property to Wilbut Cary, the Negro veteran who recently moved into that community.

Michigan: According to a report of the executive secretary of the DETROIT branch, the branch has handled thirty-four cases of significance for civil and human rights. They fall into the category of job discrimination, insurance discrimination, restaurant discrimination, extradition, police brutality, school and hospital discrimination, etc.

Following the charges of flagrant job discrimination in the up-grading practices of the Ex-Cello-O Corporation, the branch president and staff are trying to get more effective cooperation from the UAW-CIO in the prosecution of discrimination complaints.

Minnesota: In September the MINNEAPOLIS branch had a very stimulating program under the name of "quiz the political candidates."

New Jersey: On October 17 the entertainment committee of the NEWARK branch sponsored its third annual paper-dress ball in the Continental Room at 905 Broad Street, Newark. Mrs. Ethel Terry was chairman of the entertainment committee and Mrs. Marie Whigham was chairman of the paper-dress ball.

Many noted fashion designers entered models in paper attire, and an added attraction was a parade of the small fry, ages 4 to 9, with their doll carriages, under chairmanship of Barbara Chappelle. Sally Cooke, Beverly Walker, and Mrs. Helen Moore entered models.

Pennsylvania: The MERCER county branch was reorganized on July 14 with the assistance of state representative Jessie Thompson of Erie. The youth department also reports progress under the leadership of Charles Pleasant.

Elfriede Friese of the International Institute was the first guest on the revised radio program of the PHILADELPHIA branch. Miss Friese explained the purpose of the institute.

The branch has commended James Clark of the Philadelphia Eagles for his democratic action in bringing Negro players to the club. Branch speaker on September 14 was Gary Oye, president of the Japanese-American Citizens League of Philadelphia.

Virginia: Ladies participating in the queens rally of the TRI-COUNTY venture in fund raising were Mrs. India Banks, Middlesex county; Mrs. Eleanor Bundy, Essex county; and Mrs. Lesper Bowden, Gloucester county.

Seventeenth annual state meeting of the NAACP committee of HALIFAX county was held in South Boston October 10-12. More than 450 delegates were in attendance.

PICTURED *here are some of the more than 200 persons who attended the interracial family picnic sponsored by the Syracuse, N. Y., branch in August.*

College and School News

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DILLARD UNIVERSITY announces an annual scholarship of $300 which has been established by Dr. and Mrs. Alf Thomas, Jr., of Detroit, to encourage students preparing for medicine. Dr. Thomas is director of the Haynes Memorial and the Edith K. Thomas hospitals in Detroit.

■

Five members of the SAVANNAH STATE COLLEGE faculty are on leave this year. They are T. C. Meyers, acting dean of the faculty; J. B. Clemmons, acting chairman of the department of mathematics; Elmer J. Dean, chairman of the department of social science; Althea Williams, assistant librarian; and Rutherford Lockett, assistant professor of education. All are studying toward advanced degrees in their specialities.

The college reports 950 students enrolled for the fall quarter, installation of a new refrigeration system, and the formation of an ROTC unit.

■

According to registrar John Whittaker, ATLANTA UNIVERSITY has enrolled 613 students in the various divisions of its graduate and professional schools, including the pupils in the library school and the graduate school of education.

Dr. Dwight Holmes, president emeritus of Morgan, was charter-day convocation speaker on October 16. Charter day, the first formal celebration of the new academic year, was initiated by President Rufus Clement

in 1944 as an occasion on which to pay homage to the eleven men who petitioned for a charter to found the university.

President Clement announces five new appointments to the university faculty—Dr. Kenneth Waldock, chemistry; Alieja Iwanska, sociology; Mrs. Helen Gibson and Mrs. Frances Logan, both to the school of social work; and Elizabeth Lee, school of Library service.

The current issue of *Phylon*, the university's journal of race and culture, is devoted to articles on political apathy, FEPC and southern politics, and currently live topics.

■

SPELMAN COLLEGE has eleven new staff appointees—Dr. J. Wong-Quincey, English; Jenelsie Walden and Marguerita Ford, department of fine arts; Gloria Starks, health and recreation; Juanita Collier, social science division; Dr. Audrey Miller, assistant registrar; Elma Tharp, administrative assistant; Grace Bowles, secretary to the dean; Sarah Downer, Mrs. Alice Baldridge, and Mrs. Flora Moore, house-mothers.

■

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE began its 85th year with some 200 freshmen out of a total enrollment of 468. Twenty-nine of the 200 freshmen are under 16, but all have completed grades 10 through 12 in representative high schools and have passed Morehouse's rigid examinations administered to entering students under the pre-induction program financed by the Ford Foundation. Morehouse is one of 12 American colleges to share in this program.

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Seven new teachers have been added to the college staff—Howard Fussiner, music and art; Ethel Werfel, art and literature; Joseph Conant, literature; Roy Hunter, biology; Charlie Cook, physics; Mrs. Rubye Puryear, psychology; and Dr. Frederick Mapp, biology. Two teachers, Geraldine Clark and Mrs. Mynona Lipman, who were on leave for advanced study and research, have returned. Murray Branch, of the faculty of religion; and Mary Reddick, of the department of biology, are still on leave.

The recently issued *Who's Who in the South and Southwest,* published by the A. N. Marquis Company of Chicago, publishers of *Who's Who in America,* lists Morehouse French professor Dr. Edward A. Jones.

Dr. J. N. Nhlapo, principal of the Boitshoko high school in the Union of South Africa, addressed a recent college chapel service on "The White Problem in South Africa."

■

ST. JOSEPH INFIRMARY of Louisville, Ky., has accepted Negro students for the first time in its school of nursing. This is said to be the first time Negro students have been accepted by any nursing school in the state of Kentucky.

■

Dr. Buell G. Gallagher, newly appointed president of the CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK, declared, in a press interview with NAACP secretary Walter White in September, that "the major dominating mood of our day is a compound of fear, fatigue, and frustration everywhere." He stated that the responsibility and hope of overcoming this current attitude of fear and frustration lies in the nation's institutes of higher education.

■

The TOUGALOO COLLEGE board of trustees has voted to discontinue, af-

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ter academic year 1951-1952, the departments of home economics and secretarial studies as result of the diminishing demand for majors in home economics and transformation of the high school into a preparatory school.

■

The citizens' commitee of the METROPOLITAN MUSIC SCHOOL (New York City) is offering several scholarships for qualified students in vocal and instrumental music.

■

The three new faculty members at ALBANY STATE COLLEGE are Dr. James Stuart, dean; Dr. Marcus Boulware, special education; and Dr. W. E. Johnston, director of students activities. The college enrolled 406 students this fall, with an additional enrollment of 90 in-service teachers who attend Saturday classes only.

■

According to figures released by the dean's office, LIVINGSTONE COLLEGE enrolled 356 students this fall. Hood Theological Seminary, an affiliate, has enrolled 23 students, with 16 of them holding bachelors degrees.

■

CLARK COLLEGE has added six new staff members—Joseph Darden, Jr., biology; Dr. Robert Rie, romance languages; Marsyl Delisser, French; Aurelia Eggleston, education; Herman Hunter, assistant to dean of men; and Edith Dalton, secretary to the registrar.

■

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Chukwudebelu Nwora Odeluga of Onitsha, Nigeria, West Africa, has been awarded a scholarship for study towards his Ph.D. degree by the NEW YORK UNIVERSITY graduate school of arts and science. An A. B. from Lincoln and an M. A. from NYU, Mr. Odeluga plans to return to Nigeria to enter the field of labor relations.

■

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OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY awarded Ph.D. degrees in August to Gilbert Lawrence Porter and James La-France Stuart; and M. A. degrees to Louis Anderson, Walter Ferguson, Ruth Lewis, Danford Miles, and Sylvia Render; to Hubert Hannah, M. Bus. Adm.; Lucille Higgins, M. Edu.; and Edith Willoughby, M. Sc. Christine Shaw of Columbus, Ohio, received two degrees: bachelor of science in social administration and bachelor of science in education.

■

THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY inaugurated a popular "round table" astronomy series at the Hayden Planetarium this fall, under the direction of Henry Neely, special lecturer at the planetarium and author of *A Primer for Stargazers*. A popular course in natural science for the layman is given by Farida A. Wiley, assistant chairman of the department of public instruction.

■

XAVIER UNIVERSITY enrolled more than 1,000 students this fall. The Xavier concert choir has just issued its first commercial recording, featuring three religious selections and four spirituals.

■

BENEDICT COLLEGE opened its 83rd year with five additions to its faculty—Dr. Spencer Kennard, Dr. James Latimer, Dr. Francis Merchant, Mrs. Mae Kennard and Frank Anderson.

■

Dr. Robert C. Weaver, program director, announces the fourth annual JOHN HAY WHITNEY FOUNDATION opportunity fellowship program. Awards ranging from $1000 to $3000 each are made to American citizens, who because of artificial barriers of race, etc., have been denied opportunities to achieve their full potential. Thirty-one Negroes are included among current opportunity fellows.

■

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HOWARD UNIVERSITY was among nine new colleges admitted to membership in Phi Beta Kappa, honorary scholarship fraternity, at its triennial convention in September. This action authorizes Howard to install a chapter of PBK at the university as Gamma Chapter of the District of Columbia.

Sixteen new fulltime teachers have been added to the university's staff of 455 faculty members. In addition to the new teachers, 15 faculty members returned after leaves of absence for a year or more. Howard enrollment this year exceeds 4,400 students.

The university has inaugurated 28 courses designed to meet the needs of residents of Washington and neighboring areas. This new-classes division is directed by Dr. John Lovell, Jr.

■

Jacob S. Potofsky, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, was a recent speaker at VIRGINIA STATE COLLEGE. Janet Collins, premiere danseuse of the Metropolitan Opera, was seen at VSC in a dance recital in October. President Robert P. Daniel, and five of his faculty members, attended the Conference on Improvement in Preparing Teachers held in Roanoke, Va., in September.

■

Orientation and registration activities for WEST VIRGINIA STATE COLLEGE students were held September 15-17. WVSC reports sixteen new staff members this year, along with the return of two members of the English department who had been on leave for graduate study.

■

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Current enrollment figures at LINCOLN UNIVERSITY (Mo.) show a decrease of less than 10 percent over the fall report for 1951. The greatest decrease seems to be in the number of new students and freshmen, where a 20 percent drop is recorded. This count, however, is unofficial. Seven new members have been added to the university staff.

Faculty promotions at Lincoln include Milton Hardiman, from professor to head of department of modern languages; Donald Edwards, from assistant professor to head of department of physics; Thomas Pawley, from associate professor to professor of English; Edelbert Rodgers, from instructor to assistant professor in education; and Odra Bradley, to registrar of the university.

■

ELBERT C. WISNER

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Freshmen activities week began at KNOXVILLE COLLEGE on September 9, with an enrollment of 141 freshmen. Total enrollment for the 78th academic year is 336 students, a slight gain over last year's enrollment of 301.

Three one-act plays were staged in October as the first presentation of the Knoxville College Drama Society. They were Eugene O'Neil's *Iles*, Dorothy Kirkpatrick's *A Wedding*, and Doris Halman's *Will O' the Wisp*.

■

Formal opening exercises of SHAW UNIVERSITY's 87th academic session were held on September 24, with Dr. Marguerite Frierson, professor of education at Fayetteville State Teachers, delivering the principal address. Shaw has eight additions to its teaching staff this year—Dr. Malcolm Williams, psychology; Dr. Marguerite Adams, university counselor; Stanley Morris, economics; Charles Stancil, physical education; Ophelia Morris, English; John Brown, Jr., dean of men; Mrs. Harveleigh White, home economics; and Henry Blackmon, music education.

■

Traditional presidential welcoming address at FISK UNIVERSITY's opening convocation was delivered by President Charles S. Johnson on September 24. The university enrolled 193 freshmen, 26 more than last year. Enrollment of male students is up, and approximately 25 freshmen are scholarship students who won their awards in a nation-

wide competition with more than 500 candidates.

Fisk enrollment of students under the basic college program inaugurated last year has increased. The basic college, which provides scholarships ranging up to $800 a year to promising students selected on the basis of competitive examination scores and high schol recommendations, is partially subsidized by the Ford Foundation Fund for the Advancement of Education.

The university has fifteen new faculty members this year, including William Thomas, who is the second American Negro in the history of Oxford to graduate as a regular student. Dr. Alain Locke, professor of philosophy at Howard, is the other.

Donald W. Wyatt, former assistant professor of sociology, has been named director of admissions, in which office he will handle the recruiting program, and student selection and admission. Dr. S. O. Roberts, chairman of the psychology department and director of the program in child life and development, presented a paper in September to the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association meeting in Washington, D.C. The research on which the paper was based was done in collaboration with James M. Robinson, Sr., a member of the child development staff.

The 23rd triennial council of Phi Beta Kappa has granted Fisk a charter. The Fisk chapter will be known as the Tennessee Delta chapter and brings the number of Phi Beta Kappa chapters in Tennessee to four. Fisk, along with Howard, was the first Negro college to be granted a charter by Phi Beta Kappa.

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Book Reviews

ABOUT JAZZ

***Music Out of Dixie* (A novel). By Harold Sinclair. New York: Rinehart & Co., Inc., 1952. 306pp. $3.50.**

Harold Sinclair's *Music Out of Dixie* is an easy-reading novel in praise of the blues. Its setting is New Orleans during the first quarter of the present century, when the Mardi Gras atmosphere was such as lent itself to the making of jazz by Negroes of musical bent. It tells the story of Dade Tarrant, a talented lad who, after being orphaned by the death of his parents and later ousted by a pair of tight-minded guardians, gained respect and admiration as a piano player.

Dade's musical model was "Doc" Peters, a heroin addict bred in the licit brothels of old New Orleans. Peters gave Dade his rudimentary training and then introduced him to another great, Ferdinand Morton, who certified Dade's ability and eventually called him up to Harlem.

Even the Revrund Gates appreciated Dade's ability on the piano, though he appreciated "Bitsy," Dade's common-law consort, more, and proved it by vanishing with her. Later Dade was to find a higher love in Abbey Case, the blues singer from Bradsyville, West Virginia, mainly because she was more suited to his purpose of spreading "far and wide the music that was peculiarly the property of their own race."

Mr. Sinclair apparently knows his early New Orleans, for this book reveals what seems to be a keen factual grasp of its peculiar tone. Himself a a trumpet player, he has felt the chill along the spine that elicits the "pure quill" on page 46, or the man's whiskey whose smell proves it the "pure quill" on page 226.

But the central character in *Music Out of Dixie* is too often held up by coincidence and so singularly obsessed by his musical mission that it becomes with him a "humour." Consequently, he has a strange neutrality towards things in life which are distinguished for a rhythm equally basic. His explosively condescending attitude towards "Bitsy" was enough to drive her into the arms of the Revrund Gates even had they not been grasping for her. Dade refuses to grant her the devotion his Uncle George and Tante Julia denied him. In fact, Mr. Sinclair succeeds in making Dade so musical that he makes him selfish in the process.

As to the blues, it is conceivable that the freedom of their originators to come and go wherever they pleased in jim-crow New Orleans may have led to an even greater fusion of atmosphere with

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—P. L. PRATTIS in the Pittsburgh Courier

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creation. Mr. Sinclair holds that there was no reason why they should want to frequent the cabarets from which their color barred them as customers. There are Negroes as captivated by Irish lyrics as Mr. Sinclair seems to be by the blues.

It is also conceivable that the preoccupation of blues lyrics with trains and travel is related to northward migration from jim-crow oppression as well as to music *per se*, a fact which apparently escapes Mr. Sinclair, even though Dade becomes a refuge from southern justice in the coincidental clincher which ends this book.

HENRY F. WINSLOW

The Shoals of Capricorn. **By F. D. Ommanney. New York: Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1952. 322 pp. Illustrated from photographs. $4.00.**

This is Mr. Ommanney's account of his marine expedition, begun in 1947, in the Indian Ocean. In two years time this doctor of zoology covered 20,000 miles as principal scientific officer in his British Majesty's colonial service. Of his reported experiences the most fascinating have to do with the inhabitants of Mauritius and the Seychelles, British island colonies in the Indian Ocean.

Mauritius, first settled by the Dutch in 1598; then by the French in 1715;

finally became English in 1810. African slavery (which was abolished between 1834-39), plus Asiatic laborers, has given the island a Creole population which is basically a mixture of these two groups. French in culture, and highly color conscious, these people make up the "population frontaire," with its desperate and strained anxiety to be white at all costs." Dr. Ommanney has many interesting and revealing things to say about them.

In the Seychelles, which has been English since 1794, there is much the same culture pattern in a population of about 40,000.

Two observations of the author are pertinent. One is that the daily insults of the European create more hate than exploitation or extortation and that colonials resent European denial of social equality and decency in daily life much more than alien rule. The other conclusion is that European women are primarily responsible for the color bar and the calculated savagery of Europeans.

***Uncle Tom's Cabin.* By Harriet Beecher Stowe. With 16 full-page illustrations. Introductory remarks by Langston Hughes. New York: Dodd, Mead & Company, 1952. 442 pp. $2.95.**

***Poemas.* Por Langston Hughes. Version castellana de Julio Galer. Buenos Aires: Editorial Lautaro, 1952. 151 pp.**

Few propaganda novels have had the prestige of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. As Mr. Hughes points out in his introduction, "the book, translated into every civilized language from Welsh to Bengali, became the world's second best seller, outranked only by the Bible." "The truth of the mater," adds Mr. Hughes, "is that *Uncle Tom's Cabin* in 1852 was not merely a book. It was a flash, as Frederick Douglass put it, to 'light a million camp fires in front of the embattled hosts of slavery.' It was an appeal to the consciences of all free men to look upon bondage as a crime." And it is fitting in this age of cultivated barbarism that Dodd, Mead should bring out this 100th anniversary edition (1852-1952) of a book, to use Tolstoy's phrase, "flowing from love of God and man."

Poemas is a representative sheaf of Mr. Hughes' poems, ranging from the early *The Weary Blues* to his *Montage for a Dream Deferred*, done into Spanish by Señor Galer and then prefaced by a sketch of the author as man and poet. Making allowances for the different natures of English and Spanish, we find the translations faithful and colorful. But Mr. Hughes' colloquialisms often sound strange in Castilian, because the basic stratum of Spanish, contrary to English, is still Latin. Here are a few samples: "Me an' ma baby" becomes *Mi chica y yo*; "Brown-skin steppers," *Bailarines negros;* "Honey" (in the sense of sweetheart), *Amor*. Yet these minor shortcomings in nowise detract from the value of the book.

Mr. Hughes has an especially wide appeal in Latin America, where his poems have been translated and anthologized for many years. Though often thought of as primarily a "race poet," Mr. Hughes is basically a proletarian writer in the sense that his poems voice the sufferings and aspirations of the inarticulate masses of the world. It is this touch of universality that so endears him to Latin Americans.

POSTHUMOUS MEMOIRS

***Epitaph of a Small Winner.* By Machado de Assis. Translated from the Portuguese by William L. Grossman. Drawings by Shari Frisch. New York: Noonday Press, 1952. 223pp. $3.50.**

Dr. Grossman's translation of *Memorias Postumas de Braz Cubas* (1880), which is actually the Portuguese origi-

nal of his title and means *Posthumous Memoirs of Braz Cubas,* makes this masterpiece of Brazilian literature accessible for the first time to the American reader. Although several of Machado's novels, and many of his short stories, have been translated into Spanish, French, Italian, and German, this is the first Englishing of one of his novels—seventy-two years after its first appearance in the pages of the *Revista Brazileira.*

Epitaph of a Small Winner, which is basically autobiographical, bares life as for a post-mortem. Machado dissects its nerves, its veins, its fibres. When you finish these pages, you conclude that man is a prey to illusion, perpetually endowed with the same amount of folly, and that one thing is as vain as another in this passing show called life. "Let no one trust the happiness of the moment; there is in it a drop of gall."

Epitaph opens with the death of the author, who departed this life at the age of sixty-four, "sturdy, prosperous, and single . . . and worth about three hundred contos." From this point on the story meanders around in time through 160 short chapters in which Braz comments on love, ambition, envy, egoism, politics, charity, cruelty, etc. Braz tells of his childhood affair with the gold-digger Marcella, his minor experiences as a journalist, his failure as a politician, and the inevitable temporariness of passion in his long-drawn-out adultery with Virgilia, his friend's wife.

Braz reports on these things with the detached intelligence of a ghost who has nothing to fear from the malicious gossip of the living. And in the end all he left behind was a vast emptiness — "I had no progeny, I transmitted to no one the legacy of our misery."

Machado's characters live restlessly betwen desire and realization. They live, but they do not know why they live. Cowardice, envy, ambition, hunger, vanity, melancholia, riches, love, and madness are the well-springs of their being. When his good men are not evil, they are laughable and ridiculous. And Machado peppers his story with witticisms, ironic situations, epigrams and little essays commenting on these traits. So in a way, *Epitaph* becomes a breviary of scepticism and disillusion.

DESAJUSTADO *(The Misfit).* Por Alexandre dos Anjos. Rio de Janeiro: Irmaos Pongetti, Editores, 1952. 129pp.

The story of Marcelo Fernandes, a mulatto lawyer from the northeast state of Piauí, and his experiences with race prejudice in Rio de Janeiro. In Rio he becomes a partner in the law firm of wealthy Dr. Jacinto de Carvalho, is introduced to fashionable Rio society, and becomes a tutor to Jacinto's daughter, Isaura. They fall in love, but Marcelo discovers that though he is acceptable as a partner-in-law he is taboo as a son-in-law. He delivers a brilliant lecture on racism which outrages society and annoys Jacinto, so Marcelo is banished from the former and dropped from the law firm. However, when Isaura comes of age she leaves her father's home and marries Marcelo.

The Misfit studies one of those cases of racial prejudice which is peculiarly Brazilian, the complete social acceptance of an educated mixed-blood with an unwillingness to lower the social status of one's family by accepting him as a son-in-law. This same theme is handled in Azevedo's *The Mulatto* and Barretto's *Clara dos Anjos.*

Unfortunately, *The Misfit* is too much a sociological essay ever to come quite alive as a novel. Alexandre dos Anjos, the author, is the brother of the well-known poet Augusto dos Anjos.

LEGAL DIRECTORY

The following directory of some of the many lawyers known to us is carried in response to numerous inquiries from readers desiring to contact attorney outside their home towns. The Crisis maintains no legal bureau, and the N.A.A.C.P. handles only cases involving color discrimination, segregation or denial of citizen rights.

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Telephone: 2-4248

Flowers & Flowers
Masonic Temple, Pine Bluff
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2975 Sacramento St., Berkeley 2
1182 Seventh St., Oakland 7
Telephones: Berkeley 1-7417—
Templebar 6-3535

Joseph Landisman
413 Tenth St., Richmond
Telephone: Beacon 4-4782

Thomas G. Neusom
1111 E. Vernon Ave., Los Angeles 11
Telephone: ADams 6149

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2510 S. Central Ave., Los Angeles 11
Telephone: ADams 1-9737—ADams 1-6712

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Adeline & Alcatraz Sts. Berkeley
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(Geo. R. Vaughns & Mas Yonemura)
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Indianapolis 4
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(Manhart & Churchman)
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Logan W. McWilson
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Telephone: MArket 3-1779

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Broad St. Bank Bldg.
Trenton 8
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TEXAS

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NEGRO AUTHOR

(*Continued from page 567*)

pessimism, it is impossible to disentangle the social element from the personal one based on his loss of his white mother. The two were doubtless intertwined in his mind.

HONORED BY BRAZILIANS

It is interesting to note, in connection with these matters, that Machado married a white woman from Portugal five years older than himself (a mother substitute?), and that they lived very happily together. His finest poem is a sonnet written upon her death.

Anti-Negro feeling — relatively weak, as I have indicated — did not prevent recognition of Machado during his lifetime as the nation's greatest literary figure. When, in 1897, the Brazilian Academy of Letters was founded, it unanimously elected Machado its first president. He held this honor until his death in 1908.

Machado is sitting, in statued effigy, on the Avenida Presidente Wilson in Rio de Janeiro. Streets in several cities bear his name; along the one in Rio are apartment houses named after characters in his novels. A copious Brazilian literature has grown up about him. But Machado de Assis is no longer merely Brazilian. His position in world literature as a brilliant psychological realist who wrote with mordant philosophical wit and irony is now firmly established. For his exposure of the futility of life without a higher discipline he deserves — and perhaps, to his surprise, he has — a more than metaphorical immortality.

CAMPUS BROTHERHOOD

(*Continued from page 576*)

low the strategy of not telling her parents of her participation. But she declares that when she has her own home Negroes will definitely be welcome. "I tried to change my father's attitude," she said, "but it's no use." "He just doesn't realize that he has a stereotyped opinion." That people with such determination will carry positive attitudes and action into any community they enter is the hope of the group sponsors.

Discussion is not the only form of interaction in which members of the group participate. Occasionally they place the emphasis entirely on entertainment and hold a party or picnic. Outsiders hearing about interracial parties ofter express horror at "mixing." But members of the group soon forget even their initial shyness. When two Missouri University men who were invited to a school dance at Lincoln University couldn't get dates they took their courage in their hands and went stag. They were accepted so naturally by Lincoln University girls that one man withdrew from a course in anthropology on the grounds that it is erroneous to teach that there is more than one race.

Probably neither of those men who went stag would have attended an interracial dance if he had not already met many Lincoln University students through the discussion group. The group's success in lowering social barriers has demonstrated that interracial clubs could become a successful part of the extra-curricular life of every American college.

Here's a Hot Tip

The Crisis **has been fortunate enough to secure a few Copies of the First Edition of Walter White's**

THE FIRE IN THE FLINT

Of this book the late Sinclair Lewis said:

"It seems probable to me that *Fire in the Flint* and *A Passage to India* will prove much the most important books of this autumn. The *Fire in the Flint* is splendidly courageous, rather terrifying and of the highest significance."

Fire in the Flint was one of the first, if not the first, novels to be written about the race problem in the South which was not written to appease the South.

A Boston, Massachusetts, rare-book dealer recently advertised a few copies of this novel as being available at $12.00 each. But THE CRISIS is selling *Fire in the Flint* at $3.50, autographed.

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